FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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27 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD271311 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Iran-Iraq Fighting — IRNA claimed that Iranian forces killed around 1,100 Iraqis during battles in the Maymak and Sumar areas over the weekend. The agency said the Iranians thwarted Iraqi efforts to recapture heights in the area. Iraqi war communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio did not mention any fighting in the central sector but reported hundreds of Iraqi air strikes on Iranian artillery, infantry, and vehicles over the weekend. INA cited Iraqi denials of Iranian claims to have shot down several Iraqi warplanes and helicopters.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Retaliation — Iran will go "one step further than in the past" in its new retaliation policy, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio 27 July. Iran had previously limited its retaliation for Iraqi attacks on oil installations to attacking ships headed for Kuwait, he noted, but it has now decided to retaliate in kind for Iraqi attacks on Iranian terminals and oil wells in the Gulf. However, he indicated that the policy of retaliating against installations of Iraq's "partners" applies only to the Persian Gulf, where Iran will answer Iraq's "mischiefs" with attacks on installations "in the sea." Iran will respond to Iraqi attacks on its installations on land by hitting Iraqi installations, he said.

The Majlis speaker also referred to various examples of the "extraordinary military weakness" displayed by the United States in its operation to escort reflagged Kuwaiti tankers, asserting among other things that the U.S. warships were unable to detect Iranian boats that came within 3 or 4 km of the convoy. He noted the convoy's absence of nighttime air cover and warned that the cargo ships will be more likely to hit mines on their return journey because they will be fully laden and lower in the water.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani had likewise downplayed the effectiveness of the U.S. naval escort operation in his Friday sermon, a recording of which was broadcast by Tehran radio. He maintained that Iranian retaliation for Iraqi attacks "is not going to be hindered at all" because the U.S. Navy will only be able to escort around 5 of every 100 ships that dock in Kuwait each month. He also warned that if "one bullet" is exchanged between Iran and the United States in the Gulf, Iran "will not allow a single American to come to the region for the next several decades."

On the background to the reflagging issue, the Majlis speaker told his Friday audience that the USSR was "conned" into becoming involved as a result of a U.S.-Kuwaiti "plot." The U.S. defense secretary's disclosure that the United States reached agreement with Kuwait on reflagging 3 months ago "spilled the beans" in this regard, he maintained, adding that this means the agreement was reached before the Russians leased three of their ships to Kuwait. The Soviets soon realized they had fallen into a "trap," and "wisely turned back" to adopting a "considered" policy, correcting their position by coming out in opposition to the U.S. presence in the Gulf, he added. However, the USSR's initial "bad mistake" gave the United States a "pretext" to enter the Gulf by presenting the issue in Cold War terms, he said.

GCC, FRG Views — In a 25 July statement carried by SPA, the GCC Ministerial Council welcomed UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and praised Iraq's "positive" attitude toward the resolution. The Council expressed the GCC's willingness to cooperate with the UN secretary general in his efforts to secure a peaceful resolution of the Iran-Iraq conflict. A less favorable view of Iraq's position was taken by the FRG foreign minister, who described Iraq as the originator of the war and noted its use of chemical weapons, according to DPA. Iraq subsequently protested this statement by canceling economic talks with the FRG, according to Arab sources in Bonn cited by DPA.

Iran

Soviet Message — The Soviet ambassador to Tehran gave Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi a message from the Soviet prime minister on promoting economic cooperation, especially in the oil and gas sector, IRNA noted 26 July.

Flood Deaths — At least 147 people were killed when floods hit two villages in northeastern Iran the night of 24 July, IRNA reported. A number of people were also killed when torrential rain caused a "relatively severe" flood in the Tehran area 26 July, according to Tehran radio.

Kuwait

The State Security Court convicted six of the eight defendants accused of distributing leaflets advocating violent opposition to the government and trying to assassinate the amir and sentenced them to various prison terms, KUNA reported 25 July. The court also handed down a guilty verdict against 4 of the 30 defendants accused of disturbing public security during demonstrations following the arrests of the first group.

Israel

Peres on Soviets — Israel welcomes the USSR's willingness to restrain the arms race in the Middle East but rejects Soviet "threats," Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres asserted in a 26 July statement published by the Government Press Office. Peres stressed that Israel does not view the USSR as an enemy and holds no hostile intentions toward it. He also concurred with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's view that the absence of diplomatic relations between the two countries is "abnormal."

Iran Arms Affair — Israel's ambassador to France told the periodical *Valeurs Actuelles* that Israel shipped arms to Iran because it thought this would help obtain the release of U.S. and Jewish hostages in Lebanon, AFP reported. The agency said his statement is the first official Israeli confirmation that Israel supplied arms to Iran.

Lebanon

IDF Operations — An IDF force killed seven "terrorists" during an "expedition" south of Sidon the night of 26 July, Jerusalem radio announced. The Israelis made a surprise landing by sea and

carried out a "precise mission against terrorist targets," the radio said, adding that the raid follows increased terrorist efforts to organize in the refugee camps. However, reports from Lebanon indicated that the seven men killed were members of a local Lebanese militia, not Palestinians. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the deputy commander of the the Popular Liberation Army stated that seven of his fighters were ambushed and killed by Israeli soldiers while patrolling the Sidon coastal road. The radio also reported that Israeli gunboats bombarded Palestinian positions in the Sidon area.

In an earlier development, Jerusalem radio announced that Israeli assault helicopters destroyed a boat belonging to the Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP) on Al-Qir'awn Lake 24 July. The SSNP acknowledged the attack in a statement cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Zahlah Bombing — A 24 July bomb explosion near the Zahlah headquarters of former Lebanese Forces commander Elie Hubayqah killed five people including members of the Hubayqah group, Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Terrorism, Security — A Hizballah spokesman cited by Voice of Lebanon radio 25 July said the door is now open for volunteers to carry out suicide attacks "now that the major states have declared war on Islam and the Muslims." The radio also reported that the Syrians have assumed security for the French Embassy in Beirut following fundamentalist threats to strike at France. Two of five Lebanese recently arrested by French police were charged with terrorist offenses 25 July, AFP noted.

Syria

Mig-29 Supplies — Syria has received the first batch of a large shipment of MiG-29 aircraft from the Soviet Union, Jerusalem radio reported. Syria's acquisition of these planes will not really change the balance of power between Israel and Syria, but the Israeli Air Force will be obliged to present "operational answers" to this advanced aircraft, the radio added.

Cosmonaut — Damascus and Moscow television broadcast live coverage of a 25 July conversation between President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian cosmonaut who passed over Syria that day in a Soviet orbiting station.

Sudan

A 1-year "state of emergency" was announced 25 July in a State Council declaration broadcast by Omdurman radio. The document, which was signed by Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani, stated that the measure was taken in an attempt to confront market "anarchy" in the form of "artificial shortages" caused by hoarding, speculation in foreign currency, and noncompliance with the pricing policy, as well as to deal with threats to internal security, including criminality and arms infiltration. In remarks cited by SUNA, the energy minister denied that the declaration was politically motivated and stressed that the move was necessitated by the "deteriorating state of security affairs" caused by supporters of the former Numayri administration. The minister noted that workers still have the right to strike in accordance with the relevant regulations. Meanwhile, all classes in Khartoum's educational institutions were suspended indefinitely beginning 25 July, the agency reported, noting that the decision follows recent student riots protesting inadequate supplies and other difficulties.

In a statement carried by SUNA the next day, the secretary general of the opposition Islamic National Front rejected the state of emergency as a "despicable measure" that "reflects political impulsiveness and legal naivete." He accused the State Council of usurping the Constituent Assembly's power to stipulate the length of the state of emergency and warned that his party will rebel against any "sectarian dictatorship" that may result from the administration's assumption of "extraordinary powers."

In further reaction to the declaration, a "high-placed Sudanese source" assured *Al-Ahram*'s correspondent in Khartoum that there is "no foundation" to the rumors of a coup attempt by the Sudanese Armed Forces, MENA reported.

Egypt

Delegation in Libya — Reporting on a 24 July meeting in Tripoli between Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud and visiting members of Egyptian opposition parties, Tripoli television said there was a "fraternal dialogue" about the related destiny of the one Arab nation in Egypt and Libya. The Egyptian delegation had participated in a symposium on the unity of Arab progressive forces and it included leading members of the Socialist Labor Party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, and the Nasirite Socialist Arab Party.

The Egyptian visitors to Libya were sharply criticized by a writer in Cairo's *Akhbar al-Yawm*, MENA noted. The agency also cited an *Al-Ahram* report that the Libyan authorities have arrested hundreds of people because of mounting opposition to the Al-Qadhdhafi regime.

Meeting With 'Arafat — President Husni Mubarak received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in Addis Ababa 27 July, MENA reported.

PDRY-YAR

At the end of his visit to the north, YSP Secretary General 'Ali Salim al-Bid declared that the 4 days of talks on Yemeni unity took place in an "atmosphere of brotherhood, national responsibility, and frankness," according to a statement carried by Aden radio 24 July. Al-Bid stressed that the two sides examined ways to overcome obstacles to further "diminishing the factors behind the inherited partition. He also noted that the leaderships of North and South Yemen are striving to create a "unified infrastructure" for social and economic development, including the exploitation of mineral resources.

Mubarak Meets 'Arafat in Addis Ababa 27 Jul
NC271000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 27 Jul (MENA) — Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at 1145 Cairo time today.

'Text' of Palestinian 'Memorandum' to 'Abd al-Majid
JN241805 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jul 87

["Text" of memorandum presented to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by Palestinian figures during the minister's visit to Israel on 22 July — read by announcer]

[Text] The Palestinian people are aware of the pan-Arab and pioneering role of the Arab Republic of Egypt and its great sacrifices for the Palestinian cause. The Palestinian people have endured suffering and pain under the Israeli occupation, which has been continuing for more than 20 years. Our people lead all peoples seeking comprhensive, just, and permanent peace that ensures regaining their national, legitimate rights, particu'arly the right to self-determination and the right to choose their representatives. Because of this and based on our perfect knowledge that the road to just and comprehensive peace requires more preparations than war, we the Palestinians, who are meeting with Your Excellency would like to assert the following:

1. The talk about peace requires defining the sides to the conflict. Amid the numerous attempts to obliterate the will of the Palestinian people and the national identity, we affirm that the PLO is our sole legitimate representative and that there is no political identity for the Palestinian people in all of the places where they live without the PLO because it constitutes the national conscience of all our people both under occupation and in the diaspora.

2. It has become apparent that holding an authoritative international peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the five permanent members of the Security Council and the PLO, under UN auspices is the only means of realizing the cherished peace.

3. Our Palestinian people do not regard UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a sufficient basis for solving the Middle East crisis because they ignore the national legitimate Palestinian rights including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their national state on their national soil.

4. Our people have been bored by the attempts that seek to transform them into a mere community or negligible minority. Facts have proven that there will be no solution for the Arab-Israeli struggle without the recognition that the Palestinian people have the same rights as other world peoples within their national independent state.

5. While talks about peace are under way, the suffering of our Palestinian people and the deterioration of their social, economic, political, and cultural life continues. Therefore, we ask the Arab and international community, led by our brothers in the Arab Republic of Egypt, to work for ending the occupation by all available means.

6. We are looking forward to removing all obstacles that prevent special Egyptian-Palestinian relations because removing them constitutes a great step toward building the political Arab strategy to realize a just peace which will ensure Arab rights in general and national Palestinian rights in particular.

7. We ask His Excellency President Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt to contribute toward alleviating our Palestinian people's suffering through the following means:

a. Opening Al-'Arish road in Sinai to our people to facilitate their movements to and from Egypt.

b. Admitting the greatest possible numbers of our Palestinian students from the occupied territory into Egyptian universities.

c. Facilitating the granting of residence permits to Palestinians in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Again we reiterate Egypt's leading role in realizing a comprehensive, just, and permanent peace hoping that all of the points in this memorandum will be taken into consideration. Please accept our greetings and appreciation.

Jordan's Dudin Comments on Coordination With PLO
JN231709 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 22 Jul 87 p 17

[Text] Marwan Dudin, Jordanian minister of occupied territory affairs, has declared that King Husayn will continue his secret mediation between Iraq and Syria. Dudin denied reports that preparations are under way for an Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian summit. He said Jordan will not coordinate the West Bank economic development programs with the PLO as long as political coordination has not been restored between them.

In an interview with the Lebanese paper *Al-Safir* published yesterday, Dudin said King Husayn is exerting unusual efforts to acheive a rapprochment between Syria and Iraq with the cooperation of his brothers in the Saudi leadership. The Jordanian king is determined to acheive this goal, he said, since what unites Iraq and Syria is more than what divides them.

Dudin announced that his country will not coordinate economic affairs with the PLO as long as there is no political coordination. The minister expressed his country's readiness to restore coordination in all matters as soon as the PLO agrees to UN Security Council Resolutions No 242 and 338.

Dudin referred to indirect contacts between Jordan and Israel by saying: When U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy comes to Amman and conveys our position to the other side, then this is a form of indirect contact. This is also what happened when Belgian Foreign Minister Tindemans visited us, heard our viewpoint, and then conveyed it to Israeli officials.

Dudin said the first Arab unanimity on the subject of the Arab-Israeli conflict was achieved at the Fes summit when the

Arabs agreed on the principle of exchanging land for peace. It was after that summit, Dudin said, that Jordan decided on Jordanian-Palestinian coordination to implement this principle, because a harmonious Jordanian-Palestinian stand strengthens the entire Arab position.

Dudin said Jordan will not interfere in Palestinian affairs. He also denied reports that Jordan backs the dissident Fatah Movement led by Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah] who lives in Jordan. He said Jordan also rejects any Palestinian interference in its internal affairs.

Dudin considered the Jordanian Kingdom constitutionally responsible for the affairs of the occupied West Bank, because it is the country that lost the West Bank during the 1967 Israeli aggression.

Dudin said that an Arab agreement was reached during the Baghdad summit making Jordan and the PLO responsible for the affairs of the West Bank. It was agreed, he said, that the oil-rich Arab countries should pay $100 million annually for this purpose. However, the Arab states, other than Saudi Arabia, have defaulted.

Dudin added: We assumed sole responsibility for the economic affairs of the West Bank after political coordination with the PLO had stopped. We are not ready for economic coordination in the absence of political coordination, because coordination is an indivisible whole.

'Arafat on 'Escalation', 'Conspiracy' in Lebanon

JN241440 Baghdad INA in English 1325 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Tunis, July 24, INA — Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Yasir 'Arafat said that a conspiracy is being carried out in Lebanon to establish a sectarian state in southern Lebanon.

In an interview here today with the *Iraqi News Agency* (INA) correspondent Mr. 'Arafat said that the wide scale criminal escalation against the Palestinian citizens in Lebanon during the last six days aims at forcing them to leave. He added that more than four thousand Palestinians, mostly from the city of Tyre, were forced to leave.

The PLO chairman said that the enemies of the Arab nation think that the existence of the Palestinian people in Lebanon prevents the establishment of the sectarian state.

Concerning the coordination between the Zionist entity's forces and the hireling Amal Movement and their supporters, Mr. 'Arafat said that coordination to implement this conspiracy is being carried out accurately as the siege is still imposed around the refugee camps and the Zionist forces waged another battle east of Sidon using jet fighters which raid twice a week in addition to heavy artillery shelling and imposition of naval blockade of the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

Mr. 'Arafat said that despite entrusting an Arab ministerial committee by the Arab League to follow up the serious situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and to lift the seige imposed on them, the siege has not been lifted and the hireling Amal gangs and their supporters continued sieging the camps and prevented all Palestinian, Arab and international health committees and organisations to carry out their duties. In addition to that those gangs prevented canned food supplies and fuel to enter the camps for fear that they might be stored in those camps.

The PLO chairman concluded his statement by saying that the deportation has become an established fact for half a million of Palestinians as a result of killings and brutal crimes committed every day by the hireling Amal gangs and those who back them.

Appeals to World Bodies

JN251911 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has sent urgent messages to the chairmen of the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and OAU on the serious developments being witnessed in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, especially in southern Lebanon, in light of the aggressions launched against our people in which some agent parties within the Amal Movement take turns with the Israeli occupation forces and their militias.

The brother commander in chief called on the Nonaligned Movement, the OAU, and the ICO to launch urgent initiatives to confront the conspiracy of forced deportation and to slow the starvation imposed on the besieged Palestinian camps. Brother Abu 'Ammar called on the nonaligned and Islamic states to act to confront the U.S.-Israeli conspiracy being carried out on Lebanese territory to deport 500,000 Palestinians and establish a new security belt in southern Lebanon — a step which seeks to consecrate the division and partitioning of Lebanon and the region.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also instructed the PLO's permanent representative at the United Nations to submit urgent memorandums to the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general on the serious developments taking place in areas under the mandate of UNIFIL and the UNRWA, agencies responsible for protecting our people, who are being subjected to terrorism, extermination, and displacement by these forces.

Receives Iraqi Envoy, Message

JN241735 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, received Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's envoy in Tunis yesterday. The Iraqi envoy conveyed a verbal message on developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the latest current development, especially Security Council Resolution 598 on ending the Iraq-Iran war. They also discussed the need to achieve the necessary Arab solidarity to confront the dangers threatening our Arab nation.

The Iraqi envoy conveyed to Brother Abu 'Ammar the Iraqi president's personal pride and the fraternal Iraqi people's pride in the efforts of Brother Abu 'Ammar and the PLO to put an end to this destructive war at all Arab, Islamic, and international levels. For his part, Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed the admiration of the PLO and the Palestinian people for Iraq's steadfastness and peaceful efforts to end the war. Brother Abu 'Ammar briefed the Iraqi envoy on the latest serious developments against the Palestinian masses in the refugee camps in southern Lebanon and Beirut. He also briefed him on the killings and the expulsion of our Palestinian people from their refugee camps in southern Lebanon.

At the end of the meeting the Iraqi envoy affirmed Iraq's permanent and firm stand in supporting the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative. The meeting was attended by Brother Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, and Hakam Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunis.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Declares Open Session
JN251355 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Tunis, 25 Jul (INA) — It was decided here today to declare the Fatah Revolutionary Council in open session to follow the serious situation in the Palestinian arena, especially in Lebanon. Sakhr Habash Abu Nizar, Fatah Revolutionary Council secretary, said in a news statement that during its opening session yesterday in the presence of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the Council discussed the Fatah Central Committee report on the organizational, political, and military situation, and focused on the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and attempts to strike at the Palestinian people in Lebanon's refugee camps. The report also explained the role of the Zionist enemy and its agent tools in the region in peddling the criminal schemes in southern Lebanon.

Concluding his statement, the Fatah Revolutionary Council secretary affirmed that there will be no peace, security, or stability if the PLO is not allowed to exercise its role as a political party on an equal footing with all of the other parties. He indicated that the international conference for peace in the Middle East will not be acceptable unless it has effective powers and authority.

Military Spokesman Views Anti-Israeli Operations
JN241941 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Communiques issued by the military spokesman for the Palestine Revolution Forces General Command — date, place not given]

[Text] The military spokesman for the Palestine Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following: In implementation of instructions, one of our combat groups from the martyr Nabilah Brayr unit managed to overcome enemy security measures and precautions and plant timed bombs near an assembly point for enemy soldiers at the entrance to Ashdod in occupied southern Palestine and return safely to base. Palestinian bombs exploded when Zionist bomb disposal experts tried to defuse them. The explosion killed or wounded several enemy elements and caused extensive material damage. Immediately afterwards the Zionist enemy forces cordoned off the area, closed all entry points, began an intensive search campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operation. Revolution until victory!

The military spokesman for the Palestine Revolution Forces General Command has also stated the following: In implementation of instructions, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb attack last night against a Zionist military vehicle as it traveled along the Jerusalem-Hebron road in the occupied West Bank. The vehicle was burned and all of its occupants sustained various injuries. A large force of enemy police and Army soldiers were rushed to the scene of the operation. They cordoned off the area, began an intensive search campaign, and arrested scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext that they were involved in the operation. Our combat group returned safely to base. Revolution until victory!

The military spokesman for the Palestine Revolution Forces General Command has also stated the following: Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb attack against a Zionist military vehicle as it passed near Kfar Saba the day before yesterday. The vehicle sustained extensive damages and a number of enemy soldiers sustained various injuries. The Zionist security forces cordoned off the scene of the operation and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext that they were involved in the operation. Our heroic revolutionaries returned safely to base. Revolution until victory!

Government Said Ready for Dialogue With Goukouni

AB241852 Paris AFP in French 1436 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Paris, 24 Jul (AFP) — The Chadian Government is still prepared to continue [words indistinct] former GUNT (opposition to the Ndjamena regime), the Chadian Embassy in Paris affirmed today.

Goukouni Oueddei yesterday accused the Ndjamena government of "halting the negotiations" that began in Algiers last March for reconciliation in Chad. In a communique sent to AFP in Algiers, where he currently resides, he indicated that negotiations were halted as a result of the Ndjamena delegation's departure from Algiers.

In a note of clarification, the Chadian Embassy in Paris stated that "negotiations between the Chadian Government and Goukouni Oueddei were suspended because of the latter's excessive demands."

"The Chadian Government," the embassy stated, "has pledged to provide Chad with lasting institutions within the framework of a constitution that the people must vote on. In this perspective, Goukouni Oueddei's contribution will be welcome (...) The government is still prepared to continue dialogue with Goukouni and his handful of supporters still living abroad, to assist them in returning to the country in honor and dignity."

'Unacceptable' Demands Noted

AB251854 Paris AFP in French 1611 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Jul (AFP) — The "unacceptable" conditions posed by Goukouni Oueddei, president of the old GUNT (Transitional National Union Government), for his reconciliation with Ndjamena have caused the stalemate in negotiations between the two sides, Mahamat Itno, the Chadian minister of interior and territorial administration, stated today. In reaction to a statement made yesterday by Goukouni Oueddei, who accused the Ndjamena government of having interrupted negotiations, Mr Itno, at a news conference, expressed the view that, for Ndjamena, these negotiations have not been "terminated" but rather suspended due to the "unacceptable" conditions laid down by the former GUNT president.

The Chadian minister, who had led his country's delegation to the Algiers meeting with Mr Goukouni, stated that the latter demanded, in particular, the abolition of the Fundamental Act (a sort of constitution for Chad) and the reorganization of the FANT and the National Union for Independence and Revolution (UNIR, ruling party in Ndjamena). Furthermore, the minister stated, Mr Goukouni desiredto sign the possible accords to be reached with Ndjamena as the "president of the GUNT."

The Chadian authorities entered negotiations with Goukouni Oueddei last March in Algiers, where he has lived since his release from detention in Libya following his row with his former ally, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

"All these conditions posed by Mr Goukouni are unacceptable," Mr Itno underlined, accusing the Libyan authorities of having prevailed over Mr Goukouni through their "constant presence" in Algiers when inter-Chadian negotiations were under way. He referred in particular to the presence in Algiers of Major Abd al-Salam Jallud, Colonel Massoud, and Col al-Qadhdhafi, who recently visited the Algerian capital. "This presence at Mr Goukouni's side, both day and night," especially the presence of Col Massoud, did not create an atmosphere "conducive to peace," he explained.

The Chadian official, who described Mr Goukouni's communique as a "dilatory maneuver by the enemies of Chad," expressed surprise at the position taken by the former Chadian president. This is since negotiations had been "suspended" following consultations with the "Algiers group" in order to allow the group time to "revert to more reasonable positions." "If Mr Goukouni wants peace, he will see reason again," Mr Itno added, expressing the view that "national reconciliation is one of the priorities" of the Chadian Government. This government, according to him, is still prepared to meet the "Algiers group" at any time to resume talks.

After recalling the conditions posed by Mr Goukouni for his return to Ndjamena, Mr Itno repeated several times: "Destroying the achievements of the revolution or reverting to the former spirit of factionalism is out of the question. The rest is negotiable."

Goukouni Oueddei Calls on People To Mobilize

LD242033 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Goukouni Oueddei has called on the Chadian people and the government of national unity's fighters to mobilize in order to stop the agents of France and the United States who threaten peace in Chad.

In a statement issued yesterday that was carried by AFP, Goukouni stressed that agent Habre is behind the obstruction of national reconciliation in Chad. He pointed out that national reconciliation has not taken place in Chad, despite claims to the contrary, and that any agreement in this respect has not been reached. [video shows still photograph of Goukouni]

Goukouni Oueddi Makes 'Surprise Visit' to France

For reportage on the "surprise visit" to France by former President Goukouni Oueddi, see the France section of the 27 July West Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Mubarak Departs for Addis Ababa OAU Summit

NC260740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak departed Cairo for Addis Ababa this morning at the head of an Egyptian delegation to the African summit scheduled to begin Monday afternoon. The members of the delegation accompanying President Mubarak include Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. [passage omitted]

Shamir Proposal for Regional Conference Rejected

NC250753 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA) — The *Al-Ahram* newspaper reports that Egypt has rejected Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's proposal to convene a regional meeting consisting of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and the United States as a substitue for an international Middle East peace conference, which certain intransigent quarters in Israel still refuse to consider.

Today's edition of *Al-Ahram* states that, during his talks, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, explained Egypt's stand noting the following points:

1. Egypt believes that holding an international conference is the only way to establish peace in the Middle East before the end of this year.

2. As for the PLO's role as the Palestinian people's sole representative, Egypt considers its participation in the conference inevitable.

3. Egypt is acting consistently and resolutely to relieve the suffering of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and urges Israel to expedite the peace process to benefit all concerned parties.

Quoting a responsible source, *Al-Ahram* asserts that Dr 'Abd al-Majid's visit to Israel was not intended to make Israeli "hawks" completely change their position, particularly since Shamir's stance had been previously declared and is well-known. The visit's primary goal was to explain Egypt's views on the international peace conference, which is a topical issue in Israel due to the time factor, the need for peace, and the demographic situation of the population and its prospective dangers. 'Abd al-Majid expounded on Egypt's views on peace, the international conference, and the issue of Palestinian representation. He stated that the Palestinians should be represented by a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, chosen by the PLO and composed of Palestinian figures from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The source claimed that 'Abd al-Majid's talks focused on the peace issue and Israel's need for peace. 'Abd al-Majid received a considerable response from Rabin, former Minister of Defense 'Ezer Weizman, Shim'on Peres, and Abba Eban.

AL-AHRAM Views Implementing UN Gulf Resolution

NC241331 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jul (MENA) — The newspaper *Al-Ahram* has affirmed that the historical resolution adopted by the UN Security Council to end the Gulf war represents a great accomplishment. The serious events recently taking place in the conflict have created the fear that the war could expand to involve the fleets of the superpowers and have aroused concern over the destructive consequences of such an escalation.

In its Friday [24 July] commentary the newspaper asks: . Is the UN Security Council resolution strong enough to settle a matter as complicated as the Gulf war? In light of Iranian intransigence, the newspaper adds, the resolution's implementation requires serious measures on the part of Security Council members. They must back up this resolution with concrete acts, such as halting the supply of arms to the party opposing the resolution and imposing strict sanctions on arms-producing states that open their markets to brokers and arms traders. If these steps are not taken, the newspaper notes, the resolution will prove itself useless.

According to *Al-Ahram*, any progress on the road to ending this conflict is a good omen for returning the lost strategic balance in the entire Middle East. This war's grave implications pose a serious threat to regional and Arab stability and also indirectly affect Egyptian national security.

The newspaper notes that Egypt's position in supporting efforts exerted to end this destructive war reflects the accuracy of its pan-Arab strategy in general and particularly its regional strategy. Egypt's stand in supporting ongoing endeavors to end this conflict requires pan-Arab efforts, in conjunction with Egypt's efforts, to enhance Iraq's position and deter the Iranian side, the newspaper concludes.

FRG Economic Delegation Arrives in Cairo 24 Jul

NC250500 Cairo MENA in English 2130 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, July 24 (MENA) — The West German deputy minister of economy and cooperation arrived here tonight at the head of an economic delegation for a three-day visit.

He will be meeting with Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, and Industry Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahab.

Paper Denounces Delegation Visit to Libya

NC250926 Cairo MENA in English 2140 GMT 24 Jul 87

["Have They Forgotten That They Are Egyptians?" — MENA headline]

[Text] Cairo, July 24 — (MENA) — The slugged question is coming at the head of another exclaiming item, run in tomorrow's *Akhbar Al-Yawm*, and signed by "an Egyptian" at end.

The item says:

"A number of Egyptians, including some who took part in the July revolution, arrived in Tripoli last week at an invitation from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to participate in this year's Libyan celebration marking the Egyptian July 1952 Revolution".

"The question is: How may these persons accept participation in a celebration observing an Egyptian revolution when Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi is having no concern but to attack Egypt and the Egyptian people?"

"Have these persons, while accepting Al-Qadhdhafi's invitation, forgotten his permanently-sustained attitude of hostility towards the Egyptian people, which has gone as far as to order the Libyan basketball team never to play with the Egyptian team in university youth tournament, which was recently held in Yugoslavia?"

"Have they forgotten how this very same Libyan team repeated anti-Egypt and anti-Egyptian chants and insults as Al-Qadhdhafi asked it to do?"

"Have they forgotten Al-Qadhdhafi's bombs and his constant attempts to shake security and safety inside Egypt?"

"How may these persons, who are calling themselves Egyptians, sit down to listen to the talks of Al-Qadhdhafi, who hates nothing in the world as much as he hates Egypt and the Egyptians?"

AL-AHRAM on 'State of Instability' in Libya

NC242204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jul (MENA) — The *Al-Ahram* newspaper has reported that a state of instability exists within Libya and that there is a noticeable increase in the level of public resentment and anger being directed at Al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

In a report appearing in tomorrow's edition, the newspaper cites informed sources in the Libyan capital as claiming that the anger and instability currently prevailing in Libya has taken several forms, the most significant of which are:

1. An increasing number of individuals being detained on various charges related to their opposition to the regime. The number of detainees has reached 599 in Banghazi alone;

2. An escalating campaign of arrests against African nationals, who are forcibly inducted into the Libyan Armed Forces. A number of these persons have been forced to fight in battles in Chad without having received any training. The regime also has forced others, particularly Sudanese, to form what are called "revolutionary committees." Among those who have been forced to enlist in the Armed Forces are 800 Nigerians, 300 Malians, 500 Nigerois, and 800 Sudanese;

3. The leveling of accusations by the opposition Libyan National Salvation Front that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi liquidated the Adam Jawaz and the Prince Hasan al-Rida al-Sanusi families; and

4. The practice by youths of evading conscription by deliberately injuring themselves.

Amnesty International and human rights organizations have appealed to Al-Qadhdhafi to cease ordering the physical liquidation and arrest of his opponents. Al-Qadhdhafi has succeeded in 25 of the 37 assassination attempts that he ordered against his opponents.

Al-Ahram claims that reports also indicate that the existing state of public resentment and anger inside Libya against the Al-Qadhdhafi regime is rising and that the regime is currently facing the most difficult circumstances despite attempts to control the situation.

National Unity Against 'Plots' Advocated

NC251021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jul (MENA) — The *Al-Ahram* newspaper has referred to the continued infiltration attempts by conspirators who, ever since the revolution was initiated, have attempted to create divisions and disrupt national unity. The newspaper says that although Egypt's policy since the July revolution has been, and will continue to be, opposed to any foreign domination, those advocating subservience will continue their plots using various pretexts, which will suit whatever regional and international developments that are occurring at the time. The paper notes that attempts to impose subservience during the revolution's 1st and 2d decades came from the outside. However, these attempts failed when confronted by a united people. Because of this, the conspirators then changed their tactics to infiltration from within. They perpetrate acts of violence and sabotage, arouse panic, spread rumors, and attempt to cause rifts between leaders and their subordinates, as well as to undermine national unity, which throughout history has been the living image for Egypt's cohesion. In the face of these conspiracies, the newspaper states, national unity should evolve from a feeling of mere affiliation with the nation to a sense of collective responsibility for strengthening the Egyptian nation. In conclusion, the newspaper stresses the need for the people to always take a collective stand on warding off both domestic and foreign threats.

KUNA: Interior Minister Views Opposition Movement

LD251010 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jul — In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anba'* published here today, Egyptian Interior Minister Major Zaki Badr asserted that the Egyptian security authorities possess no categorical proof that an organization known as Egypt's Revolution exists. He pointed out, however, that there is a group of individuals who commit certain crimes or who exploit some crimes to apply the organization's name to these acts.

Badr strongly denied reports by some Egyptian opposition newspapers about the death of the principal defendant in the case concerning an attempt on the life of former Egyptian Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha. He said: "I can confirm that he is

not dead. But there are some security considerations that prevent the publication of his picture or any visits to him."

He declared that the emergency law was promulgated to be implemented and that it is essential to enforce it in cases requiring such enforcement. The law, he said, should not disturb any honorable citizens, nor should it harm them.

He stressed the need for enforcing this law because every step taken toward increasing freedom and democracy should be balanced by a step toward greater security and stability. Otherwise, freedom and democracy would constitute a threat to the security of the citizen and of the homeland.

Minister Badr commented that enforcement of this law is temporary and depends on the state of emergency. He pointed out that democracy has caused no concern to the security authorities but has placed greater responsibilities on their shoulders.

He confirmed that there is cooperation in the security and police sector between his ministry and other Arab interior ministers. He noted that there is also cooperation in this sector with European nations and the United States.

In referring to sources of danger to Egypt's external security, Minister Badr stated that the vigilant security authorities should expect danger from all countries opposed to Egypt's political line, especially since it is difficult to ascertain the identity of persons visiting Egypt.

In speaking of discipline on Egypt's streets, he declared that attaining this is a matter of time since it depends on implanting new values of behavior and culture.

Suez Canal Chairman on Safety, Development

NC252142 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA) — Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, has stated that the canal's shipping lane is completely safe and is militarily far removed from the tension prevailing in the Arab Gulf area. This tension is currently threatening international shipping. In marking Egypt's celebration of the anniversary of the canal's nationalization, Engineer 'Adil said that development of the canal's shipping lane and its equipment will continue during the new 1987-92 5-year plan. This plan allocates to the canal and its companies 322 million pounds, including 165 million in local currency, to develop the shipping lane and equipment should international economic conditions, in terms of the international (? oil) market, improve.

In a statement to be published by *Al-Ahram* tomorrow, Sunday, Engineer 'Adil notes that although it is completely safe, the canal has been affected economically by developments in the Gulf and by deteriorating regional economic conditions. Despite this, he declared, the canal's revenues have risen continuously due to the Canal Authority's policy of allowing passage of giant ships whose measurements exceed the canal's specifications, as well as allowing reduced fees for ships making extended voyages. These fees have been reduced by 60 percent in order to attract new customers. As a result of this policy, Engineer 'Adil noted, 75 new tankers and ships sailed through the canal [words indistinct] after paying 7.5 million Egyptian pounds. Engineer 'Adil noted that since the canal enjoys international confidence, Saudi Arabia has used the Yanbu' Pipeline to transport its oil to the Red Sea from where it is transported to Europe via the Suez Canal.

Economy Minister Departs for Geneva UNCTAD Session

NC260829 Cairo Mena in Arabic 0750 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) — Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, departed Cairo for Geneva today to attend the remaining days of the UNCTAD conference. He will participate in the final formulation of resolutions and recommendations made during the conference, which lasted for almost 1 month. In a statement prior to his departure, he noted that he will address the conference on Tuesday and will meet with a number of economics ministers.

Al-Qadhdhafi Mourning Speech for Al-Nasir Noted

LD241631 Tripoli JANA in English 1520 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nasir [July] 24, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution mourned to the Arab people the loss of the late leader Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir on 28 Al-Fateh [September] 1970. The mournful comments of the leader are as follows:

By the name of Allah the benevolent and the merciful. O Arab people in the Libyan Arab Republic, while I extend my condolences to you now, I need more than you such condolences, for the destiny of the Arab nation and its struggle have made me closer to him than any other person.

Jamal did not live for himself. Rather, he lived for every other person. Neither did he live inside Egypt. Rather, he lived inside the heart of every one of us. Neither did he work for Egypt alone. He simply worked for our Arab nation in its entirety. Hence, I found in Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir the caring father, kindly brother, close companion, fast friend and faithful person.

I miss him a lot now. Yesterday I was deep down in his big heart and brave brain. He held my hand tight encouraging me and making me feel secure while saying to me his last farewell.

But, Jamal will live among us as an immortal soul, a strong will and resolve. We have to embody him in his struggle, patience and devotion. We pledge to abide by this. It is a matter of principle which we abide by. They are the principles of freedom, socialism and the comprehensive unity of the Arab nation for which Jamal staged a revolution. He taught us how to stage a revolution and how to struggle for. [sentence as received] He opened for us the road of struggle. In this glorious road he died building its construction bit by bit with honesty, impartiality, resolve and constancy until he gave his life generously.

We should follow suit in a closely united brotherly manner taking the road of glorious struggle feeling more than ever the necessity of unity, apart from being more determined to combat the enemies and still feeling more resolved to maintain our right to live.

With Allah's help, we will be faithful to the principles of the glorious forerunner, believing that a nation that has given birth to Jamal is capable of being transformed wholly into Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir embodying him in theory and in practice.

Jallud Receives Egyptian Delegation, Views Ties

LD242032 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Staff Major Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud this evening received the brother members of the Egyptian Arab people's delegation who participated in the pan-Arab symposium on the unity of the pan-Arab progressive forces. This symposium was organized by the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress in Tripoli. The delegation included leading members of the Nasirite Socialist Arab Party, the Socialist Labor Party, and the Unionist Progressive Party, as well as Dr Muhammad Ahmad Khalafallah.

The sides held a fraternal dialogue on the related destiny of the one Arab nation in Egypt and the Great Jamahiriyah, the realities and dangers facing the Arab nation, and the responsibilities of the progressive pan-Arab forces in understanding reality and in reaching serious practical solutions allowing the great Arab nation to take the initiative from imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary forces. This will not occur until Egypt detaches itself from the policy of stable David and returns to its leading role in confronting the enemies of the Arab nation. [video shows Jallud and the members of the delegation seated in a room]

Al-Humaydi Meets Delegation

LD252015 Tripoli JANA in English 1705 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Jul 25, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi this afternoon received members of the Egyptian Arab delegation who took part in the symposium on the unity of Arab progressive masses held in Great Jamahiriyah in commemoration of 35th anniversary of the 23rd July Revolution.

The delegation consists of leaders of the Arab Socialist Nasirist Party, the Socialist Labour Party and the Unionist Alliance Party.

During this meeting, which was attended also by the secretary of the general secretariat of the People's Arab People's Congress [as received], a fraternal dialogue took place on relations of destiny between the Arab people in Great Jamahiriyah and Egypt, the situation of the Arab nation and the threats it faces from imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries and the role and responsibilities of Arab progressive forces in the return of Egypt to its natural role in countering the enemies of the Arab nation and resisting and foiling all imperialist and Zionist plots.

Palestinian Officials Arrive in Tripoli 23 Jul

LD250238 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Muhammad Khalifah, assistant secretary of the Vanguard of the People's Liberation War, Al-Sa'iqah Forces; and Brother Salim Qandil, member of the General Command of the Vanguard of the People's Liberation War and head of the organization's political department, arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Brother Muhammad Khalifah issued a statement to JANA in which he declared that this visit comes within the framework of continuous visits to the Great Jamahiriyah for the sake of discussing the Palestinian situation in particular and the Arab situation in general.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Visitors

LD270650 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received the Arab Egyptian delegation that participated in the pan-Arab scientific

seminar on the unity of progressive forces. The seminar was organized in the Great Jamahiriyah on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the glorious 23 July Revolution. The Arab Egyptian delegation included leaders from the Nasirite Arab Socialist Party, the Socialist Labor Party, and the Unionist Grouping Party.

The brother leader of the revolution also received the leaders of the Palestinian revolutionary detachments: the National Palestinian Liberation Movement — Uprising; the Movement of the Vanguards of the Popular Liberation War — Al-Sa'iqah Forces; the Revolutionary Council of the Palestine National Liberation Movement — Fatah; the Palestine Popular Struggle Front; and the Arab Popular Liberation Front.

Algerian Party Official Arrives for Talks

LD262201 Tripoli JANA in English 1755 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nasir [July] 26, (*Jamahiryah News Agency*) — Mr Djelloul Melaika, the member of the Central Committee of the Algerian FLN party and deputy president of the People's National Assembly of Algeria, and the delegation accompanying him this afternoon arrived in Tripoli on a visit to Great Jamahiryah.

Mr Melika expressed, in a statement to the correspondent of JANA on his arrival at Tripoli International Airport, his pleasure and that of the delegation in his company at visiting Great Jamahiryah. He said he is carrying fraternal and militant greetings from the members of the Algerian People's National Assembly, the Algerian people and their leadership spearheaded by militant Chadli Bendjedid to our brothers in the General People's Congress and the leadership of the great Al-Fatih revolution and the great militant, the leader of the Libyan revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

He said his visit to Great Jamahiryah is part of the visits paid by members of the People's National Assembly, various Algerian Government institutions and their officials from militants the FLN party as well as visits to Algeria by brothers from Great Jamahiriyah. [sentence as received]

Mr Melaika made clear that the visit came within the framework of consultations and meetings between the Algerian People's National Congress and the General People's Congress to continue the talks and entrench the ideas agreed between the two sides.

He said "I hope through this action to make concrete the aspirations of our peoples in the region of the Arab Maghreb so as to entrench what they fought for and attain their goal of the union of the peoples of greater Arab Maghreb. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Bangladesh Minister, Delegation

LD262100 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1652 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jul (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has received Brother Harun al-Rashid, Foreign Ministry under secretary and personal envoy of the president of Bangladesh, and his accompanying delegation. They are currently on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah within the framework of consolidating bilateral relations between the two friendly countries.

Agreement Signed; Visit Ends

LD262109 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 26 Jul (JANA) — Brother Harun al-Rashid, Foreign Ministry under secretary in Bangladesh, departed Tripoli this afternoon after concluding his several-day visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. [passage omitted]

Prior to Brother Harun al-Rashid's departure, a cooperation agreement between the Great Jamahiriyah and Bangladesh was signed by a member of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and by Brother Harun al-Rashid.

Al-Qadhdhafi Greets Bourguiba on Anniversary

LD261030 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jul, (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution has sent a cable of greetings to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba on the occasion of 30th anniversary of the Republic's declaration. Following is the text of the cable:

Brother Habib Bourguiba, president of the sisterly Tunisian Republic: On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the declaration of the Republic, it is my pleasure to convey to you both on my behalf and the people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah the sincerest greetings and best wishes. We pray to God that you will enjoy such an anniversary many more times in good health and happiness. We also pray that the Arab people in sisterly Tunisia enjoy more progress and development. May God enable us to serve our nation to achieve its unity and preserve its dignity and future. Your brother, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Tunisian Airline Resumes Flights to Tripoli

LD232132 Tripoli JANA in English 1806 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nasir [July] 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Tunisian airlines resumed its flights between Tunis and Tripoli with the arrival this morning of a Tunisian airline flight to Tripoli International Airport.

Sources of the Libyan Arab Airlines told JANA that the Libyan Arab Airlines will resume its normal Wednesday flights to Tunis starting next week.

State Council Declares State of Emergency

EA252030 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1903 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Declaration issued by the State Council and signed by Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the State Council, on 25 July]

[Text] In view of the anarchy prevailing in the markets, represented by artificial shortages of certain essential commodities brought about by the black market's illegal hoarding and speculation in foreign currencies and noncompliance with announced legal prices; the spread of smuggling in all its forms; the lack of security as represented by armed robberies in some areas and the criminal gangs that exist in certain towns which have terrorized citizens, depriving them of their lives and property and dishonoring their women; and the illegal infiltration of weapons into parts of the country — due to all this and in an effort to ensure the security of the domestic front in facing the enemies of democracy and the homeland, the State Council has decided, after consulting with the Council of Ministers on the basis of the power vested in it in accordance with Article 134 of Sudan's transitional Constitution of 1985, to declare a state of emergency throughout the country for 1 year effective from the date of this declaration.

This state of emergency has been imposed to achieve the following:

1. To limit transactions in foreign currencies to legal channels and to wage war against foreign currency brokers and traders;

2. To control anarchy in the market and to combat harmful hoarding and black marketeering;

3. To control the prices of commodities and to compel those involved to comply with the announced legal prices;

4. To wage war against all forms of smuggling;

5. To end obstructions in public service that affect the citizens' security and comfort;

6. To stop armed robberies and to deter criminal gangs;

7. To eliminate the possession of unlicensed firearms and to expose their caches;

8. To ensure the security of citizens' lives and property and the honor of women.

9. To ensure a secure internal front to face the enemies of democracy and the homeland.

God grant us success.

Issued on 25 July 1987.

[Signed] Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the State Council, on behalf of the State Council

Council of Ministers Approval

JN261853 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Jul (SUNA) — Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, signed the state of emergency law for 1987 today in accordance with Article 134 of Sudan's transitional Constitution. The Council of Ministers approved the state of emergency law today. This measure will now be referred to the Constitutent Assembly for proclamation.

Dr Adam Madibu, minister of energy and mining, said that the state of emergency was declared to eliminate the obstacles facing the implementation of measures to facilitate the citizens' livelihood.

Madibu added that the crisis of price increases is fabricated and premeditated. He declared that the moves made by the emblems of the defunct May regime to undermine the democratic system, as well as the deteriorating state of security affairs, have dictated the imposition of the state of emergency. Madibi said that the Council of Ministers has empowered the regional governors and the Khartoum commissioner with implementing the state of emergency measure.

Madibu denied that the declaration of a state of emergency is politically motivated or directed against citizens. He said that workers have a legitimate right to stage strikes if these are carried out in accordance with the law. Otherwise, strikes would be illegal even if a state of emergency had not been declared.

A legal source told SUNA that the state of emergency declared by the State Council chairman is an exceptional measure that the authorities resort to as a means to counter any threat endangering the nation's unity or security. Due to this measure, some liberties stipulated in the Constitution such as the right to assemble, demonstrate, and strike, as well as certain press freedoms, are suspended.

The legal source also told SUNA that declaring a state of emergency is usually followed by the issuance of a state of emergency law defining the measures that must be taken.

The legal source announced that the state of emergency law will be referred to the Constituent Assembly, which will approve or reject it. The source added that the Transitional Military Council once vested all powers in its hands before announcing a state of emergency and that this state of affairs ended with the Transitional Military Council.

It is worth noting that the state of emergency has been rejected by large sectors of the population, which view it as a civilian dictatorship.

Islamic Front Rejects Measure

JN261833 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1744 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Jul (SUNA) — The Islamic National Front [INF] has declared its rejection of the state of emergency proclaimed by the State Council yesterday. INF Secretary General

Al-Turabi declared that the front will resist the proclamation through all democratic means.

In a statement to the press today, Al-Turabi announced: If the government has made this decision as a premise to imposing a sectarian dictatorship, then we will take it as a premise to rebel against such a dictatorship. He declared that the proclamation of an emergency is a despicable measure that was adopted in a manner reflecting political impulsiveness and legal naivete.

Al-Turabi remarked that it is strange for a state of emergency to be proclaimed in the absence of the prime minister and without consultations with the opposition. He added: It is known that the text of the Constitution stipulates that a state of emergency is proclaimed if great danger threatens national unity or the safety of the homeland and its economy.

He noted that the proclamation said that the state of emergency will be in force for 1 full year, thus ignoring the need to refer it within 2 weeks to the Constituent Assembly, which defines the period for which the state of emergency remains in force.

Al-Turabi declared that the real reasons for proclaiming a state of emergency is the government's emotional reaction and political frustration caused by its complete failure to manage services and maintain security, as well as its emotional reaction to the increase of popular opposition.

Al-Turabi asserted that lifting the restrictions of the [word indistinct] law and the return to the May security measures were done at the behest of illegal security quarters. The government wants a free hand and extraordinary powers to carry out its political designs against the opposition.

Al-Turabi added that ordinary legal (?means), if used effectively, are adquate to combat smuggling and armed robbery, to exercise control over commodities, and to maintain security. He affirmed that the government has the right to seek to bring about the enactment of supplementary legislation by the Constituent Assembly. He said that there is no justification to proclaim a state of emergency just to cover up the government's failure to effectively enforce the law.

MENA: Coup Attempt Following Emergency Act Denied

NC262200 Cairo MENA in English 2144 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, July 26 (MENA) — Speculation on a coup in Sudan, reportedly attempted immediately after declaring a one-year state of emergency there, is denied by a Cairo daily.

Tomorrow's *Al-Ahram*, a Cairo morning Arabic-language daily, is running on page five a dispatch from Khartoum filed by its staffer, Salah al-Din Hafiz, who is quoting a high-placed Sudanese source as discrediting these speculations and dismissing them as having no foundation.

The dispatch is further asserting that the Sudanese Armed Forces are giving their support and backing to the legitimate democratic regime in Sudan.

Classes Suspended in Khartoum Schools, Colleges

JN241835 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jul (SUNA) — The Khartoum commissioner issued a statement yesterday suspending classes in all of the capital's schools and colleges effective tomorrow, Saturday, until further notice. The commissioner stated that he will do his utmost to provide a proper atmosphere for holding classes as soon as possible.

The commissioner's decision comes in the wake of student riots which began at the start of the current scholastic year on [date indistinct] July. Classes were not held regularly due to a shortage of furniture and books and public transportation difficulties.

Demonstrations Cease 24 Jul

JN251832 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jul (SUNA) — Student demonstrations came to a halt yesterday and today following the issuance of a decision on closing schools until further notice.

Students in Khartoum and Omdurman continued their demonstrations on 23 July in all neighborhoods and streets until midnight. Students blocked streets with burning tires during these demonstrations. Large numbers of students from all quarters participated in the demonstrations in protest against power outages. Students in northern Khartoum continued their demonstrations until the evening of 23 July.

National Capital Commissioner Karam Muhammad Karam will hold a news conference tomorrow in which he will discuss educational issues and the motives that prompted the suspension of teaching at elementary, secondary, and higher education institutions.

Interior Minister Receives Mauritanian Official

JN231621 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Jul (SUNA) — Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, deputy prime minister and interior minister, today received here the Mauritanian minister of culture and Islamic guidance. The visiting minister gave him a message from Maaouya Ould Sidi'Ahmed, chairman of the Mauritanian CMSN and president of the Republic, for Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on developing and enhancing fraternal bilateral relations. The message also emphasizes Mauritania's readiness to cooperate with Sudan in all fields. It is worth noting that the Mauritanian minister is participating in the international conference of governmental organizations on communication policies in the Arab states, currently being convened here.

Defense Official Returns From Jordan, Turkey

JN251606 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jul (SUNA) — Retired Major General Fadlallah Burmah Nasir, minister of state in the Ministry of

Defense, returned here yesterday following working visits to Jordan and Turkey.

Burmah reported that he had held talks with Turkish officials on ways to enhance bilateral economic and security cooperation within the framework of nonalignment. He added that he had also conveyed a message from Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan and held talks with Jordanian officials on ways to promote fraternal cooperation in the economic, developmental, medical, and security fields, especially in the area of military training. Burmah noted that the coming phase will witness an exchange of visits between officials from the two nations.

Armed Forces Kill 170 Rebels in Malak 14 Jul

JN251147 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jul (SUNA) — The Armed Forces have killed 170 rebels, including 2 colonels, in the Makak area of the southern region. They have also seized 30 Kalashnikov rifles, 6 Degtyarevs [machineguns], and various types of ammunition.

An attack by the Armed Forces against a group of rebels in the Makak area took place on 14 July, today's *Al-Usbu'* added. Our Armed Forces are conducting vigorous military operations against the forces of John Garang in different parts of the southern region, *Al-Usbu'* reported.

SPLA Radio Claims Troops Using Captured Weapons

EA242110 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Informed sources at the office of the chief of staff of SPLM-SPLA have said that the final count of weapons captured by the SPLA during the takeover of the towns of Pibor and Jokau has been made. The sources have not given the precise figure of these weapons but said the number did not include those arms which had been rendered useless by enemy forces who removed some of the vital parts shortly before the capture of both towns.

According to the sources, some of the military hardware which had been abandoned at Pibor by the enemy, following its defeat, were subsequently employed by SPLA forces of the 1st and 3d Axis in the capture of Jokau. The SPLM-SPLA has been using almost all the captured enemy mortars and heavy machineguns in its operations ever since substantial quantities of these armaments began falling into their hands, the sources added.

Bourguiba Addresses People on 30th National Day
LD242332 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Statement made by President Habib Bourguiba on 24 July to the Tunisian people on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Republic's proclamation — recorded]

[Text] Dear sons and daughters, Tunisian people: Today Tunisia celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Republic's declaration. It is a memory that is dear to us because of the meaning and lessons it contains.

On this day 30 years ago, Tunisia was able to close a black page in its history and to open a fresh, new page that represented its aspirations and hope for dignity and glory.

The Tunisian state cleared all these things, and we established the strong state in which the people control their destiny. We constructed a modern society that is committed to eliminating its inheritance of misery, division, and degenerative factors. We had to mobilize the people's energies to accomplish comprehensive development that would be established in an atmosphere of stability and harmony, and that would benefit all sectors of the people. We also had to be a voice supporting freedom and justice in the international community and calling for wisdom and (?compassion).

Today, as we celebrate this glorious anniversary, we can measure the great differences between what we were 30 years ago and what we have become today in terms of development, prosperity, utilizing civilization's achievements, openness to the modern world, and utilizing new scientific and technological discoveries. The basis of all these things is undoubtedly our strong national solidarity and national unity by which we were able to liberate our nation and to provide it with protection, safety, and prosperity. By virtue of our national unity we are still achieving consecutive victories and constructing our country. We will not falter in continuing our march and making greater effort until we improve conditions for all our citizens, especially the poor.

I am convinced that what Tunisia has achieved under the republican regime — reassurance about the future and the appreciation and respect of the whole world — is a matter that every Tunisian is proud of.

As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Republic Day, our proud people should preserve their gains and should not abandon their national unity. This is because this unity is a measure of their security and safety, and source of their dignity and confidence; it is also a guarantee of our people's success in their march toward a better future.

Dear sons and daughters, Tunisian people, one of the proud achievements of our republican regime, after we had rid the country of foreign hegemony and established a modern state, is our liberation of women and giving them the opportunity to rise to a better station in life based on understanding and responsibility. This was because we believed that society cannot be balanced and dignified with half of it remaining exploited and humiliated. This is a very important event, one unprecedented in Arab and Islamic countries.

Another achievement we are proud of is the trade union movement's return to the national movement's mainstream and its return to its real origins. This is based on the consideration that the state serves everyone and is responsible for fulfilling the people's interests in progress, prosperity, and social justice.

One of the bases of the struggle for raising the citizens' conditions is raising housing standards. I gave my permission for the complete removal of all slums and primitive houses in Tunisia. I decided to draw up a comprehensive program to achieve this goal as soon as possible.

We were always committed to supporting the bases on which our young republic was established and to protect these bases from all dangers. One of these dangers is religious extremism and dark thoughts. Our true religion of Islam is a factor for progress and prosperity, which orders us to pass through life with open eyes and enlightened minds. What is admirable about Muhammad's shari'a is its vitality and ability to adapt to the requirements of development and civilization. All these reasons make us resort to firmness and alertness in the face of those who want to exploit religion for evil political purposes.

Today, I can see that Tunisians stand firmly as an invincible barrier in the face of these destructive tendencies. Tunisians strongly condemn those who call for primness and deception and who do not hesitate to use methods to achieve their evil aims. However, these maneuvers are doomed to fail because Tunisians have become accustomed to using their heads in facing up to these matters. Therefore, Tunisians will never follow those who call for sedition and conspire against our great regime.

The sons of this people should continue to work under their well-guided state for the sake of prosperity, invincibility, and everyone's happiness.

May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Council Issues Communique on Gulf Situation

LD251812 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Here follows the full text of the final communique from the GCC Ministerial Council meeting, which was read by GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah:

The GCC Ministerial Council has completed its ordinary session, which began in Jeddah on 6-8 June 1987 and ended in Al-Ta'if on Saturday, 25 July 1987. The council met under the chairmanship of His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and in the presence of all its members.

The council has discussed the current situation in the region. The council renews its commitment to what was put forth in the press statement it issued on 28 June, supporting the measures being taken by Kuwait. Stemming from the GCC's eagerness to establish peace and guarantee security and stability in the Gulf, the council welcomes UN Security Council Resolution No 598 of 1987. The council also expresses its appreciation of the efforts being exerted by the international community; namely, the UN Security Council member states. The council affirms its readiness to cooperate with the UN secretary general in his endeavors to provide suitable conditions for realizing a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran war and for securing the legitimate rights of both parties to the conflict.

Within the framework of international law, the council calls on the international community to adopt stances that will enable the realization of peace, security, and stability in the Gulf. In this connection, the council notes with satisfaction the positive attitude that Iraq has declared in regard to the above-mentioned resolution.

Issued in Al-Ta'if, 25 July 1987.

KUWAIT

Ministers Briefed on Gulf War Initiative

LD261905 Kuwait KUNA in English 1750 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, July 26 (KUNA) — The Council of Ministers Sunday followed up outcome of the international drive aimed at settling the ongoing Gulf conflict, the last of which was Security Council Resolution 598, and listened to other reports.

In its weekly regular meeting, the council, which was presided over by H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, was briefed on results of the latest bids seeking an end to the Iraq-Iran war. Among these efforts was the Kuwaiti successful drive which received positive response worldwide.

The ministers listened to a report by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir on the results of the GCC's ministerial council meeting that took place in Al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, yesterday, during which the GCC foreign ministers emphasised the importance of implementing the Security Council Resolution 598 which stipulates mainly a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran and the withdrawal of their troops to the international borders.

Kuwait has exerted efforts, on all levels, to find a peaceful settlement to the destructive war and expressed its gratitude for the historic Security Council resolution and hoped for its immediate implementation to achieve peace, security and stability in the region.

The Council of Ministers was briefed on outcome of the Arab seven-man committee's tour in Europe which included West Germany and Italy. The Arab seven-man committee is assigned by the Arab League to pursue developments in the Gulf war and means of ending it. The council discussed other local and foreign issues.

PRC Minister Cited on Chartering of Oil Tankers

LD261808 Kuwait KUNA in English 1601 GMT 26 Jul 87

[By Saleh Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, July 26 (KUNA) — China's Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan said on arrival here Sunday that his government "deeply understands the Kuwaiti friends' request for chartering Chinese oil tankers." Qi Huaiyuan told KUNA that Beijing is currently studying the Kuwaiti request "seriously."

China and Kuwait are two friendly states, he asserted, adding that intensifying visits and the exchange of opinions and views between officials in both countries greatly benefits the fostering of such friendship and the developing of cooperation relations. The Chinese official hoped that the visit would help boost such relations between the two countries.

Asked by KUNA on reports that China opposes the imposition of sanctions against the party that rejects implementation of the Security Council resolution on a peaceful end to the Iraq-Iran war, he said "these reports are untrue." H.H. the Amir is scheduled to receive the Chinese Deputy premier on Monday. H.H. Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad will also receive the guest.

Qi Huaiyuan is to hold detailed talks on bilateral relations and developments in the Gulf region with Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin who received the guest in the airport. He was also received by Najeh al-Baghli [name as received] from the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department and Chinese charge d'affaires to Kuwait Zhou Xenshan [name as received].

The Chinese guest is accompanied by an official delegation including head of the West Asia and North Africa Department in the Foreign Ministry and former Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait Yang Fuchang.

Delivers Message to Amir

LD271242 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1102 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 27 Jul — Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah received today a message from PRC President Li Xiannian. Nothing has been revealed about the contents of the message delivered by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan when he called on the amir of Kuwait at Al-Sif Palace today. The Chinese guest later met with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister. Both audiences were attended by Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the Chinese ambassador to Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Returns From GCC Meeting

LD252038 Kuwait KUNA in English 1824 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, July 25 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad returned home Saturday after attending closing meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council's 23rd session in Al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia.

Shaykh Sabah said on arrival that GCC Foreign Ministers completed their ordinary session that started in Jeddah on June 6-8. He added, "We discussed in the meeting various developments in the region and reaffirmed the press release of the Jeddah meetings particularly the Council's support to the Kuwaiti measures to ensure its commercial and economic interests."

Shaykh Sabah added that the Security Council Resolution 598 was also touched on, noting that the Ministerial Council welcomed the decision that "really reflects the international community's desire and keenness to reach a peaceful settlement to the Iraq-Iran war in a way ensuring both countries' legitimate rights." He went on that the Council appreciated efforts exerted by the international community especially the Security Council members.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat asserted the GCC countries' preparedness to cooperate with the U.N. Secretary General's bid to furnish appropriate circumstances for implementing that "historic resolution." The council further expressed satisfaction toward the positive response of Iraq in accepting the U.N. decision, he noted.

Shaykh Sabah was received on arrival back home by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, foreign under secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, and a number of senior ministry officials.

GCC Military Representative Arrives for Talks

LD252057 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1817 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 July, KUNA — Major General Yusuf al-Madani [name as received], GCC assistant secretary general for military affairs, arrived in Kuwait tonight on a visit that is to last a few days. Maj Gen al-Madani will hold talks with a number of military officials during his visit. The talks are to coordinate military affairs among the GCC member states.

Court Sentences Plotters to Prison, Hard Labor

LD251113 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1041 GMT 25 Jul 87

[All names as received]

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jul — The State Security Court today issued its verdict in case Nos 2186/87 and 470/87 and appendix 470/87 for state security crimes. The court sentenced 10 of the accused to prison terms and acquitted 30 others.

With regard to the first case, in which eight persons were accused of distributing leaflets inciting opposition to the country's government and change through the use of force, violence, and unlawful means — coupled with an attempt on the person of the amir and encroachment on the pillar of the emirate — the court sentenced Ahmad Mahmud 'Abd al-Karim al-Mi'raj, a Kuwaiti national, to 7 years' imprisonment and hard labor in respect of the charges against him. The court also confiscated the camera and bus No 9013 SF that were seized from him.

The court sentenced 'Abdallah Husayn al-Hawwaj, a Kuwaiti national, to 5 years' imprisonment and hard labor in respect of the charges against him. The leaflets and private car No 5106 L seized from him were confiscated.

The court sentenced Mubarak Salih Hasan al-Najjaadh, a Kuwaiti national, and 'Adil Abd al-Rasul Hasan al-Sarraf, a Kuwaiti national who is still absent, to 5 years' imprisonment and hard labor in respect of the charges against them.

The court sentenced Husayn 'Ali Husayn Qa'imi al-Ballushi, a Kuwaiti national, to 3 years' imprisonment and hard labor in respect of the charges against him. Hasan Muhammad 'Ali Yusuf al-Khalifi, a Kuwaiti national, received 6 months' imprisonment in respect of the charges against him.

The court acquitted 'Abd al-'Aziz Sadr Jawhar, a non-Kuwaiti national.

The court referred to a juvenile court the eighth defendant, 'Abd al-Amir Muhammad 'Abd al-Husayn Sayyid 'Abbas al-Musawi, a Kuwaiti national, because of his youth.

In the second case, in which 26 persons were accused of taking part in an assembly at a public place, crimes against the authorities, and disturbing public security, the court sentenced 'Abbas Ghallum Muhammad Taqiy, a Kuwaiti national, to 5 years' imprisonment in respect of the charges against him.

The court also sentenced defendants 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali Hasan Mulla 'Ali, a Kuwaiti national, and Khalid Husayn 'Abd 'Ali al-Shatti, a Kuwaiti national, to 6 months' imprisonment in respect of the charges against them.

The court acquitted 23 accused, of whom one is absent, and all of whom are Kuwaiti nationals with the exception of defendant 'Ali 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah al-Muhaysin, who is a Saudi national.

In the third case, in which a total of seven persons are accused and which is appended to the previous case, involving the same

3charges, the State Security Court sentenced Tawfiq Tahir Muhammad al-Musa to 5 years' imprisonment and hard labor in respect of the charges against him. The court acquitted six accused "Kuwaitis."

The court held its public session to read the sentences under the chairmanship of Counselor Muhammad Abd al-Hay al-Banay and the membership of Counselor Ahmad Tahir Khalil, Judge Sa'd al-'Abd al-Karim al-Safran, and in the presence of state prosecution representatives Muhammad Fuhayd al-Zu'bi and Abd al-'Aziz Bin Ghayth, and court clerk Nizar Muhammad Husayn.

PDRY

Al-Bid Returns From YAR Unity Talks 24 Jul

EA242124 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and the delegation accompanying him returned to the southern part of the homeland by road this evening after a 4-day visit to the northern part of the homeland. During the visit, he held talks with his brother, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and with officials from the north regarding restoration of the homeland's unity and a number of other issues of interest to our Yemeni people.

Upon his arrival he was received by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and a number of senior party and state officials. The brother secretary general and his delegation visited Ta'izz on their way back from Sanaa. [passage omitted]

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies Saudi Minesweepers To Clear Gulf

LD261644 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1548 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Riyadh, 26 July (SPA) — A responsible source has told SPA: We have recently been following various false reports in the Western media. UPI reported yesterday, quoting *The New York Times*, that Saudi minesweepers are to clear navigation channels in the Gulf.

Moreover, the paper *Liberation* published a report yesterday that there are non-Saudi airbases in the Kingdom. This is pure fabrication. The source added that the Kingdom regrets the publication of such reports, and it points out that the mission of Saudi minesweepers is confined to fulfilling their duties within conventional territorial waters.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

PDRY's Al-Bid Comments on Talks With North

EA251952 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] The delegation from the southern part of the homeland, headed by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, is continuing its visit to the northern part of the homeland. Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid arrived in Ta'izz city at 1215 today by road from Sanaa. More details are in the following dispatch.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Brothers, we greet you from Ta'izz. The delegation from the southern part of the homeland, led by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, arrived in Ta'izz at 1215 today by road from Sanaa. The leader of the delegation was received by Brother Muhsin al-Yusufi, member of the Permanent Committee and governor of Ta'izz Province; the brother commander of the province; officials in the province; and a number of officials from the General People's Congress and local councils in the province.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid and his accompanying delegation left Sanaa at 0830 this morning. He was seen off by Brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, speaker of the Constituent People's Assembly and vice president of the Republic; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Permanent Committee; and Brother Lieutenant Colonel Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of the general staff and member of the Permanent Committee.

At the end of the southern delegation's visit to the north, Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, made the following press statement:

From 21-24 July, we paid a visit to Sanaa, the historical capital of a unified Yemen, where we held brotherly [word indistinct] and amplified discussions with our brother leaders from the northern part of the homeland, headed by Brother Col 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. In these discussions, which took place in an atmosphere of brotherhood, national responsibility, and frankness, we paid a great deal of attention to evaluating the results of joint unity activities by the leadership of the two parts, in light of the unity agreements signed in previous years. We discussed appropriate ways of formulating and developing unity. We studied the steps that have been implemented. We examined ways of dealing with all the difficulties associated with the inherited partition, to bring closer the day when the unity to which the masses of our Yemeni people look forward to is achieved.

This unity meeting was an extension of the peaceful and democratic formulas and approaches that have characterized the joint unity activities undertaken by the leadership of the two parts in past years. It helped strengthen the atmosphere of security and stability in the Yemeni arena and to propel joint unity efforts in

the direction of building a practical base for the aspired state of unity.

There is no doubt that this forthcoming period requires us to continue making intensive efforts, to take unity steps that express the firm link between the aims of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions. It is a link that is embodied by the daily efforts of the leadership of the two parts to create a unified infrastructure in various spheres of economic and social development; to exploit oil and mineral resources; to develop national culture; to facilitate the movement of citizens between the two parts; to improve the people's living standard; to protect national sovereignty and national soil; and to reinforce the status of the single Yemen at Arab and international levels.

During the forthcoming period, unity efforts must be directed toward these spheres. (?Thanks to the) results of this meeting, we are confident of our ability to (?overcome) the problems in the unity committees that have not completed their work. We are confident of our ability to enhance the effect of joint unity establishments and to reinforce the role of leading unity organizations, headed by the supreme Yemeni council and the joint ministerial committee. This will be done in a manner that will guarantee the drawing up of the necessary plans, timetables, and programs for bringing nearer the aspired state of unity, the great aim of the Yemeni people and the Yemeni revolution.

The brother secretary general was accompanied by Brother (Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wazir), Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, secretary of the Permanent Committee, and a number of other officials.

Greetings to you, brothers, from Ta'izz. [end recording]

Al-Bid Departs 24 Jul

JN241338 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] At 0800 today, Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee in the southern part of the homeland, left Sanaa for Aden via land following a 4-day visit during which he headed the delegation from the southern part of the homeland to the Yemeni unity talks. He was seen off by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and a number of officials from the northern part of the homeland.

Foreign Ministry Statement on UN Gulf Resolution

JN261813 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Statement issued by the YAR Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 26 July]

[Text] The YAR Government has followed with great interest the international efforts being exerted to end the Iraq-Iran war, which has caused and continues to cause the dissipation of the energies and potentials of two neighboring countries experiencing a pressing need to use these potentials to develop and modernize their societies economically and socially. Furthermore, this war constitutes a threat to regional security and peace and contributes to inceasing international tension.

The YAR Government, which expresses great satisfaction with the UN Security Council resolution calling for an end to this war and for settling the disputed issues between the two countries through peaceful means, pays tribute to the efforts of the United Nations before the UN Security Council resolution was issued and to the preparations made for the issuance of this resolution. The YAR Government believes this resolution, which represents a serious beginning toward putting an immediate end to this war, also reflects the international community's stand which opposes the continuation of this war.

The YAR looks forward to seeing the brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran favorably respond to this resolution, which came as an expression of the international community's conscience and its antiwar attitude. In the same vein, the YAR expresses its appreciation of the Iraqi brothers' positive stand toward this resolution and of their readiness to cooperate with the United Nations by adopting great steps aimed at implementing this resolution. It hopes that the United Nations will continue its efforts in order to see the resolution implemented to save the blood of the sons of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and to preserve regional and world peace.

Salih Cited on 'Solid' Relations With Libya

LD232117 Tripoli JANA in English 1824 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Sanaa, Nasir [July] 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih the president of the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) asserted that the relations between Great Jamahiriyah and North Yemen are excellent and a high-class ones which are the focus of care from both leaderships of the two sisterly countries.

In a statement he gave to JANA's correspondant, he said that the cultural weeks held in both Great Jamahiriyah and North Yemen are the best evidence on the advanced bilateral relations. He said, "There exists common interest from both revolutions in Great Jamahiriyah and North Yemen to meet on many common grounds. North Yemen's relations with its brothers in Great Jamahiriyah are solid and strong."

AL-WATAN Reports 30-Day Cease-Fire To Begin 29 Jul

JN251130 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] In today's issue, the Kuwaiti *Al-Watan* newspaper reports that Iraq will observe a 30-day cease-fire as of Wednesday, 29 July. This action is intended to test Iran's stand following the adoption of the latest UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate halt to the Iraq-Iran war.

Citing well-informed sources at the United Nations, *AL-Watan* reports that during their meeting in New York on 23 July, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz informed UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar of Iraq's decision. *Al-Watan* adds that Iraq had decided upon this action in order to give Perez de Cuellar an opportunity in his upcoming mediation between Tehran and Baghdad to achieve the desired results through implementing the Security Council resolution.

Government Denies Cease-Fire

JN251728 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Iraq today denied any plan to observe a 30-day cease-fire beginning on Wednesday, as had earlier been reported by an Arabic newspaper. This denial was made by an official at the Iraqi mission to the United Nations in a statement to Huda Tawfiq, our correspondent at the United Nations.

'Aziz Meets UN Secretary General in New York

JN240752 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] United Nations, 24 Jul (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar here last night. The INA correspondent in New York has reported that this meeting lasted for approximately 1 hour. Our correspondent also noted that during this meeting 'Aziz had explained Iraq's stand on UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for ending the Iraq-Iran war. Tariq 'Aziz informed the UN secretary general of Iraq's official position with regard to the UN Security Council resolution.

In a press statement following the meeting, Tariq 'Aziz said that he had informed the UN secretary general that Iraq welcomes the resolution and wishes to cooperate with him in implementing it in order to ensure that the conflict can be resolved peacefully.

Tariq 'Aziz also stated that Iraq would welcome a visit by the UN secretary general to Iraq at any time. He announced that he will depart for Washington on Monday to meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Views UN Resolution No 598

JN241723 Baghdad INA in English 1714 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] United Nations, July 24, INA — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz today met with the President of the U.N. Security Council, M. Pierre-Louis Blanc of France, to explain Iraq's position on the Council's Resolution 598 which calls for an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. 'Aziz met last night with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar also to discuss the historic resolution.

Answering questions following today's meeting with the Council president, Mr. 'Aziz, in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo and INA, said that the continuation of the war has led to the current tension in the Gulf.

As for the resolution, Mr. 'Aziz said that any partial treatment or approach "is wrong" and would not achieve the desired result of security and stability in the region as a whole.

Mr. 'Aziz pointed out that the Iranian regime has always sought a piecemeal approach and divided the conflict into bits and pieces, "trying by all means to divert attention away from the original goal, which is to end the war and achieve a settlement of the conflict."

In its resolution, what the Security Council did, Mr. 'Aziz said, was to concentrate clearly on the necessity of a comprehensive settlement, beginning with Article 1 of the resolution, which calls for a ceasefire on land and sea and in the air, followed immediatly by a withdrawal of forces to international borders.

Commenting on Article 5 of the resolution — which calls upon all states to exercise the utmost restraint and to refrain from any act which may lead to further escalation of the conflict — Mr. 'Aziz said that those who concentrate on that part should remember that the resolution is not composed of one article but ic "a resolution as a whole."

The Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that whoever accepts the resolution as a whole, or is ready to implement it, has the right to criticize the behavior of others. But the party who refuses to accept the resolution and to cooperate with the secretary-general in implementing it, and who concentrates instead on one element of the resolution, then that party's intention is to let the war continue.

The Iranian regime's recalcitrance, Mr. 'Aziz said, and its rejection of Security Council resolutions is the cause of the tension in the Gulf that led to such incident as the mine explosion which hit the American ship.

"If Iran would accept the resolution as Iraq did and announce its readiness and willingness to implement it with goodwill, we could avoid all these problems," he added. "but Iran insists on the continuation of the war, which means that such problems will continue."

Mr. 'Aziz noted that he had informed the UN secretary-general and Security Council president that Iraq welcomes the resolution and is ready to work with him and cooperate in implementing it "as a whole."

He said that he had made it clear that Iraq considers the resolution to be "well balanced and that it cannot be divided."

Asked if he referred to the timing of the implementation of the resolution, Mr. 'Aziz said that he was speaking of both content and timing. Timing, he added, has to do with what is practical, and "we will leave that to the secretary-general, in consultation with both sides."

He said that Iraq had made some suggestions on the implementing of the resolution, which, he added, "is proof of our seriousness and goodwill in cooperating with the secretary-general on its implementation."

Asked about his forthcoming meeting in Washington Monday with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Mr. 'Aziz said that he will inform the secretary of state of Iraq's position vis-a-vis the resolution and discuss the current situation in the Gulf.

Asked if he planned to visit the Arab states to explain the Iraqi position, Mr. 'Aziz said that President Saddam Husayn has sent envoys to the heads of state of a number of countries, including the Arab League's committee of seven, to convey the Iraqi position.

Gulf War Battlefront Reportage Continues

Communique No 2,755 Issued

JN241634 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,755 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 July 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With continuous vigilance, great determination, and thorough preparation, our Armed Forces have continued their glorious defense of the homeland. The results of our units' activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our brave helicopter gunship knights carried out a series of daring raids on enemy forces in the operational areas. They inflicted additional losses on the enemy in over 38 combat missions. The knights then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our valiant formations in the I Army Corps northern sector conducted heroic operations against enemy units. They engaged enemy sources of fire, achieving the following results: three 120-mm mortars and two 106-mm guns,destroyed, six scoundrels killed, two machineguns destroyed, and three vehicles damaged or destroyed.

3. When five enemy boats attempted to approach Al-'Amiq Port, the heroic port force intercepted the enemy craft and forced them to flee toward the Iranian coast.

4. One of our units in the II Army Corps central sector engaged two enemy patrols and forced them to flee after killing a number of enemy personnel. In other areas of the same sector, our units destroyed one enemy tank and seven vehicles and detonated a number of ammunition dumps.

5. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, the Khomeyniite aggressors sustained the following losses: two vehicles, one bulldozer [preceding word in English], one antitank gun, two infantry positions, and one machinegun emplacement were destroyed; one enemy scoundrel was killed; and the enemy's engineering work was disrupted.

6. One of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris spotted 20 enemy soldiers and fired on them. A number of the enemy were killed, while the remainder escaped. In another area in the same sector, one enemy boat was destroyed.

7. Using long-range artillery, the desperate enemy shelled residential areas in the brave city of Basra. Civilian homes and property were damaged as a result.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 July 1987

Denial Aircraft Downed 25 Jul

JN251509 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1458 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jul (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that any Iraqi aircraft or helicopters have been shot down today, as Iran has claimed. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the spokesman declared that all Iraqi aircraft and helicopters have returned safely to base.

Communique No 2,756 Issued

JN251708 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,756 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 July 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With their courage, fortitude, fighting capabilities, and high performance, our victorious Armed Forces embody Iraq's growing power and pride against its enemies. They embody this free, rising, and faithful nation's ability to confront the Zionist Khomeyniite clique and to establish justice and peace. The following is a roundup of our forces' activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force, which records immortal epics and glorious victories against our nation's enemies, with God's help and through the determination of its valiant men — commanders, pilots, officers, and other ranks — continues to deliver devastating blows against the Iranian regime of charlatanism and agentry. Our brave hawks today carried out 137 combat missions and destroyed more than 230 enemy artillery, supply, and infantry positions in theaters of operation. They also delivered direct hits to the enemy's equipment, other weapons, and its concentrations of personnel, killing a large number of dastardly Khomeyniite soldiers. After carrying out all these tasks, they returned safely and triumphantly to base, jubilant at God's victory. Praise be to these men.

2. The valiant cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continue to exhibit their skill at hunting down the enemy concentrations,

equipment, and weapons. These heroic men today carried out 79 combat missions characterized by their unique courage and their superb performance. With these missions, our cavaliers inflicted very important losses on the enemy. They then returned safely and triumphantly to base, thanking God for their victory over our nation's covetous enemies.

3. Our valiant units in the I Army Corps northern sector managed to kill six scoundrels, destroy two vehicles loaded with ammunition, and silence a number of enemy sources of fire.

4. An enemy force estimated at one infantry regiment sought to approach one of our forward positions in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. Our men pounded this force with their weapons, killing most of the enemy while the remainder fled. Elsewhere in this same sector, one large enemy vehicle and two weapon emplacements were destroyed.

5. The enemy sustained eight dead and a number of wounded in the Special I Army Corps sector, the Allahu Akbar Forces sector.

6. Six infantry positions and a heavy machinegun were destroyed, and all those manning them were killed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

7. Two shovels [preceding word in English] were burned, one ammunition dump was destroyed, and the enemy's engineering work was halted in the VII Army Corps sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 July 1987

Communique No 2,757 Issued

JN261641 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,757 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 July 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces continue their heroic struggle for the sake of God and the homeland to safeguard the people's dignity and their right to a free, safe, and propserous life. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Our daring eagles continue their raids against the enemy. In 123 combat missions, they succeeded in destroying scores of enemy artillery. They also wiped out many enemy personnel econcentrations and destroyed 50 vehicles of various types, cutting off enemy communication routes in all operational sectors. After carrying out these missions, our aircraft returned safely to base under God's protection and guidance.

2. Our heroic helicopter gunship knights today carried out 107 combat sorties, killing or wounding many enemy soldiers. They destroyed several enemy weapons, as well as enemy equipment and positions before returning safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Three enemy positions and one shovel [preceding word in English] were destroyed and several enemy soldiers were killed in the I Army Corps norther sector. Elsewhere in the same sector, our forces captured one Degtyarev machinegun and several rifles previously abandoned by the enemy.

4. A force comprised of one of our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah foiled an enemy ambush. Our forces also destroyed three weapons emplacements and killed or wounded several enemy soldiers.

5. Our forces on the loading platform of Al-'Amiq Port sighted two enemy boats and opened fire on them, forcing them to flee.

6. One single-barreled machinegun and those manning it were destroyed and two ammunition dumps were detonated in the VII Army Corps sector.

7. One enemy soldier was killed and one ammunition dump was detonated in the Special I Army Corps sector, the Allahu Akbar Forces sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 July 1987

3 Helicopters Denied Downed

JN261857 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1844 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 26 JUL (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has rebutted Iranian claims that three Iraqi helicopters have been downed. The spokesman asserted that all aircraft carrying out their duties over the battlefield have safely returned to base. The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command military communique issued this evening stated that Iraqi aircraft and helicopters today carried out 230 combat missions and sorties against Iranian forces and military positions.

Ambassador Admits Arms-for-Hostages Deal With Iran

AU241614 Paris AFP in English 1607 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Paris, July 24 (AFP) — Israel supplied arms to Iran to help secure the release of Western hostages held in Beirut, the Israeli ambassador to France said in an interview with a French weekly to be published Monday.

The first official Israeli confirmation of U.S. assertions that Israel supplied arms to Iran, was made to the periodical *Valeurs Actuelles*.

The ambassador, Ovadia Soffer, said Israel had always considered the Islamic fundamentalist movement of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to be its "worst enemy."

But he added that Israel could not "neglect" Iran, as not all the country's 44 million people supported the ayatollah.

Mr. Soffer said Israel shipped arms to Iran "because we sincerely thought this would help to obtain the release of American and of our hostages," in an apparent reference to 10 Lebanese Jews missing in West Beirut since August 1984.

A faction called the Oppressed of the Earth claims to have abducted and executed nine of them. The tenth, Selim Jammous, aged 50, was kidnapped in August 1984 but no organization claimed responsibility for his abduction.

Some 25 foreigners are believed to be held hostage in Lebanon, including Americans, West Germans, Frenchmen and Britons.

Reaction to USSR Statement on Missile Development

Government To Convey Message

TA260733 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Jul 87 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfar and from Geneva by Yosef Alpern]

[Excerpt] Israel will convey a message to the Soviet Union, through diplomatic channels, explaining that it has no intention of threatening it and that it does not regard the Soviet Union as a confrontation state. Israel intends to tell the Soviets it is striving for peace and will do everything to bring about a dialogue with its Arab neighbors. The message will also state that Israel's policy is purely defensive and that it must follow such a policy in view of the growing strength of the Arab countries. [passage omitted]

Peres Statement Rejects 'Threats'

TA270934 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 26 Jul 87

["Statement Issued Today by Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres; Communicated in English by the Foreign Ministry Spokesman" — GPO headline]

[Text] "Israel follows with interest and support the contacts between the two superpowers in their efforts to reach an agreement on arms control, including the removal of nuclear missiles from Europe and Asia.

"Israel supports every effort and initiative that may facilitate dialogue, a reduction of tensions and a moderation of the arms race, both globally and regionally.

"In this context, Israel attaches importance to the narrowing of gaps between the respective positions of the USSR and the USA, and is encouraged by the apparent progress in that direction.

"Israel welcomes the willingness of the USSR to restrain the arms race in our region, as manifested by Moscow's announced intention to avoid introducing short- and medium-range missiles into the Middle East. Indeed, what the Middle East needs is a development race rather than an arms race.

"At the same time, Israel rejects the Soviet threats against her. Israel's security strategy is not an offensive one. Israel does not view the USSR as an enemy, and holds no hostile intentions towards her.

"Moreover, Israel agrees with Secretary General Gorbachev that the absence of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel is an abnormal situation. Israel sets no pre-conditions to the re-establishment of normal diplomatic relations and expects no such pre-conditions from the Soviet side. Full diplomatic representation should lead to better relations between the two countries, rather than result from them.

"Israel reiterates its call for direct negotiations between the countries of the region for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, and reaffirms its readiness to enter into a dialogue with all its neighbors in order to reach such an agreement, including accord on the non-introduction of short- and medium-range missiles by either side."

Shamir on USSR Role in Mideast

TA271109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has said the Soviet Union cannot play a constructive role in the Middle East because of its policy toward Israel. Speaking a short time ago to an International Forum for Freedom at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Shamir said such a role cannot be played because of the Soviet Union's total support for Israel's adversaries and its attitude towards the Jewish people in the USSR.

The prime minister said introducing the Soviet Union into the diplomatic process would immediately lead to an increase in subversion, intrigue, and support for the extremist elements in the region.

Our reporter Shlomo Berger says Shamir emphasized that the PLO cannot be regarded as a partner to peace in any shape or form.

Terms Announcement 'Propaganda'

TA271039 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1030 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says Moscow's announcement on the deployment of Jericho missiles is mere propaganda. He claims the Soviet Union knows very well that Israel entertains no hostile intentions. The prime minister expressed apprehension over the supply of Soviet weapons, including MIG-29's, to the Arab countries.

Sources Assess 'Threats'

TA260812 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Jul 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Political sources in Jerusalem have said "it is ridiculous to think Israel has any intention of attacking the Soviet Union." Officials in the capital expressed their assessment that the threats to Israel, following reports on the new model of the Jericho missile, were intended to create the impression in the Arab world that the Soviet Union is trying to strike a balance. It is doing this in view of the attempts to grow closer to Israel as evidenced, among other things, by the dispatch of the consular delegation to Israel. According to these officials, the threat from Moscow may also be related to reports on the supply of MIG-29's to Syria. [passage omitted]

'Warning' Seen as Intimidation

TA261142 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Jul 87 p A10

[Commentary by Yosef Lapid: "The Evil Empire"]

[Text] The brutal Soviet warning following the testing of the Jericho-2 missile — that Israel will not be the only country to introduce nuclear weapons to the Middle East — comes as a timely reminder.

It reminds us that Gorbachev's "glasnost" policy did not manage to convert the Soviet Union into a paradise overnight.

It also reminds us that the consular delegation that came to Israel from Moscow does not represent a fundamental change in the fathomless hatred characterizing the Soviet policy and attitude toward Israel. If the Soviets are currently employing the carrot-and-stick policy toward us, then there is still a lot of stick and very little carrot.

There are at least four reasons why we tend to hear themes from our national anthem, "Hatiqva" [hope], in those gypsy tunes coming from the Soviet Union: first, because we are always hoping for the best. Second, there is an innate, Ashkenazi sentimental nostalgia in Israel for anything Russian. Third, because the Israeli Left has long been waiting for the first opportunity to fall prostrate before Big Brother. And fourth, because Shim'on Peres is hoping that rapprochement with the Soviets will ease the way for an international peace conference, which has become an obsession with him.

However, people who do not see what they want to see but rather the facts, which speak for themselves, must remember that it was Soviet diplomatic activity that recently brought about the reunification of the Palestinian terrorist movements; that it is the Soviets who are supplying Syria with the enormous arsenal directed against Israel (with or without the MIG-29's); that the Soviets are always the force behind the instigations against us in every international forum; and that the Soviets now want to increase their influence in our region — not to bring peace closer, but to weaken the status of the United States.

There is a pathetic strangeness in the West's craving to regard Gorbachev's smiles as heralding the coming of a new age. Gorbachev's smile can stretch from Kiev to Vladivostok, but still it is the Soviets who are continuing to shake humanity's peace of mind, imperiling peace in the West and menacing Israel's existence. It is indeed "the evil empire," as President Reagan so aptly called it.

The blunt and crass Soviet warning against introducing nuclear weapons to our region was not aimed at making amends to Syria for withholding the new missiles. Nor was it intended to appease the Arabs in light of the signs of a thaw in relations between Moscow and... Tel Aviv. Its purpose was to intimidate Israel. The absurd charges that the Israeli missiles are a threat to the Soviet Union — Israel will attack the Soviet Union?! — constitute a stick without the carrot. It would be best to remember that and take it into consideration. But there is no need to panic. The trumpets of Moscow will not bring down the Jericho missiles.

Viewed as Public Relations Ploy

TA260958 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Jul 87 p A10

[Editorial: "Moscow's Threats"]

[Text] Moscow's threat against Israel, based on the *International Defense Review* report on the Jericho missile, is a public relations exercise aimed at a number of targets simultaneously. If this were a significant statement of political position, it would not have been carried on the brief and marginal Hebrew-language broadcast.

The threat is directed first and foremost at Washington and is part of the complex bilateral negotiations conducted in Geneva. In lumping the Jericho together with the FRG's Pershings, Moscow wants to undermine the credibility of the United States: While the Americans are prepared for the two superpowers to pull out intermediate-range missiles, they still want to hold on to other missiles under independent flags.

That is why the Moscow Radio commentator argued that Israel obtained the Jericho thanks to U.S. assistance. The fact that a U.S. paper published such a report without obtaining official confirmation from Israel is, to the Kremlin's propagandists, immaterial.

The second addressee is the Arab capitals, where the Kremlin wishes to present itself as "the defender of Islam." The threat that Moscow might supply nuclear weapons to countries in the region conflicts with the Soviet Union's policy and raises the suspicion that this is intended to balance out the Soviet Union's renewed diplomatic presence in Israel.

This is not the first time that Moscow has wanted to terrorize Israel. It threatened Israel with the missiles when demanding that the IDF pull out of the Sinai in 1956. The threat also lurked in the background in 1967 and 1972. Therefore, the stratagem should be viewed as an opportunity to flex a superpower muscle, and no more.

Syria Receives First Shipment of MIG-29's From USSR

TA260414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Syria has received a shipment of MIG-29 advanced Soviet fighter planes. Israel Television's military correspondent reported early this morning that this is the first of a large shipment of the twin-engine fighter plane, which is regarded as a Soviet version of the F-15 and F-16 U.S.-made fighter jets. Just last week, Moscow had reportedly decided not to sell Syria the advanced SS-23 missile.

Security Sources Statement

TA260457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted describing the MIG-29] The view in the IDF on the supply of MIG-29's to the Syrians is that although this will not really change the balance of power between Israel and Syria, the Israeli Air Force will now be called upon to present operational answers to this advanced aircraft. As is well known, the Syrians want to achieve strategic parity with Israel. Security sources with whom we conversed recently warned that Israel must demonstrate great alertness and assume that Syria has no intention of laying down its arms, even though there are no actual signs that it is stepping up its moves and working to raise the level of tension.

The security sources said: The facts speak for themselves. The Syrian Army has grown substantially in size and numbers since the war in Lebanon. The Syrians are completing the defensive deployment of their ground forces and have equipped themselves with advanced T-72 tanks. They have also revitalized their other weapon systems. The trend of freezing individual unit sizes, which we had witnessed recently, is no longer that evident, so it is not certain that there has actually been a real decrease in the Syrian Army's size.

The security sources told us the receipt of the MIG-29's constitutes yet another stage in the Syrian Army's growth, possibly another step in its efforts to become capable of launching a war and facing Israel single-handedly.

Peres Interviewed on Soviet 'Warning,' Conference

TA250959 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0805 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Yosi 'Abadi and Dani Vessely; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] ['Abadi] At the end of last week the Soviet Union issued a warning on the use of Jericho-2 missiles. Do the Soviets have anything to worry about?

[Peres] No. We have no intention of taking any action toward the Soviet Union. On the whole, Israel's military concept is entirely defensive. The Soviet Union is not our enemy, but it has supplied our neighboring countries with missiles, so Israel must also take the necessary defensive measures.

['Abadi] How do you interpret the Soviet warning?

[Peres] Well, it is not really a formal warning. I understand it was carried over the Hebrew-language broadcasts beamed at Israel. I think the Soviet Union itself realizes it is facing no danger whatsoever from Israel.

['Abadi] Perhaps this announcement should not be accorded too much importance, but still it deviates from a host of signals we have been getting indicating a thaw of sorts in the Soviet Union's attitude toward us.

[Peres] Another interesting announcement was made that the Soviet Union will not supply Syria with intermediate-range missiles. All these declarations require very serious and deep examination because in our talks with the Soviet Union, they have raised the issue of the strategic cooperation between us and the United States. We told them: Gentlemen, you were the ones to create the threat in the first place. Therefore, the cause and the effect cannot be regarded as being one and the same. All Israel does in the defense sphere is actually in reaction to the threat against it that has been constantly growing, partially also thanks to the funneling of Soviet weapons [to the Arab countries].

['Abadi] What is the Soviet Union's position on the international conference?

[Peres] The Soviet Union's assessments have been varied, depending on the location and occasion on which they were expressed. Our most recent information — from more-or-less authoritative sources — on its positions came through reports on the talks held between Mr Polyakov and Mr Murphy. Our impression is that, on some issues, the Soviet Union has mitigated its views, saying they require a review and that it must think about them, whereas on other issues it has remained staunchly steadfast in its adherence to past positions.

Let us take a brief look at the areas where it has softened its positions: It no longer talks about a conference with coercive powers, but one that would be deprived of the power to impose anything; a conference without the right to impose a veto. On the other hand, it says the conference should have authority [samkhut] without explaining what it means by this term. With

all due respect to the Soviet Union, it must understand that no Arab, and certainly no Israeli, will be found who will agree to either the Soviet Union or the United States making decisions for us, conducting negotiations in our stead, or dictating to us how to conduct the negotiations.

[Vessely] In your contacts with the Soviets, were you ever given the chance to find out what they meant by a conference with authority [ve'ida samkhutit]?

[Peres] No. I first became acquainted with this term, a conference with authority, in the report on the Murphy-Polyakov talks. Yet when I talked to the Soviets, they expressed a different view, namely that Israel should state its positions in advance, such as: territories in return for peace. I told them this was out of the question.

['Abadi] So the Soviet Union has softened its positions, and we learned from the Egyptian foreign minister's explanations here last week that your opinions on the international conference are quite close. Yet the Alignment and the Likud are frozen in a tie that prohibits either an international conference or elections. Has the time not come to realize that there is a wall here that cannot be torn down?

[Peres] But if you realize there is a deadlock, will you be satisfied? What kind of satisfaction will it give you? I realize it is a dead-end road, which is why I ask myself how we can overcome this problem.

The situation right now is that half the people think one way, at least as things are presented in the Knesset. So now there are two possibilities: The first is for the two halves to try to meet halfway. All this talk about one issuing orders to another or vice versa; no one can issue orders. One half of the public cannot issue orders to the other half. If a few bedouin cross over from one political side to another, that does not alter the picture at all. The other possibility is to ask the people and seek a decision. I can see no other way.

[Vessely] When you say meet halfway, do you accept the notion that has been raised for a national conference in which the Alignment and the Likud first reach an agreement between themselves?

[Peres] There is no reason for a national conference. Everything on which there is agreement is known, and everything on which there is disagreement is also known.

[Vessely] But when you say meet halfway, what do you mean?

[Peres] For one thing, one might say the following: Let us reach a final decision on the international conference after all the conditions for it are known, and until then concentrate on discovering these conditions. For example....

['Abadi, interrupting] But what you have just said does not constitute the middle of the road for the Likud.

[Peres] So what is your suggestion?

['Abadi] That is what we are asking you.

[Peres] So I am telling you: We should hear what the Likud is offering. And what is it offering? It says that in the name of national unity its opinion should be accepted. But why should we do that?

['Abadi] The Likud is offering the autonomy talks.

[Peres] That is a different thing. They will occur after we have entered into negotiations. But the problem is how to arrive at direct negotiations.

We have been subject to a constant brainwashing. An international conference has already been held. That was in 1973, and it was attended by the Soviet Union and the United States, Egypt, Jordan, and Israel. Nothing horrible happened to us. Only one good thing came out of it: After this conference, or opening, Israel and Egypt began negotiating and that led to results. Now the suggestion is to follow the same course of action with Jordan. This is not a typical Likud position. The Likud was in favor of an international conference back in 1977. As to what we will present when we reach the negotiations, the Likud and the Alignment have an agreement on the matter, obviating the need for any national conference. But the problem is how to get to the point of launching negotiations in the first place. We agree that once we reach negotiations with Jordan, we will indeed offer them autonomy. I have no objection to this.

[Vessely] Your line advocates an international conference, and if not that then elections.

[Peres] Wait a minute, you are wrong when you say that this is my line. That is not correct and you must be accurate: My line advocates direct negotiations.

[Vessely] Which will begin in an international conference?

[Peres] Which we will reach through an international opening. You seem to have gotten the two mixed up.

[Vessely] Right, so: direct negotiations that will begin in an international conference, or elections. If elections are held and they result in a tie that leads us back to the prevailing state of affairs, what will we do then?

[Peres] We will accept the voter's choice. What can we do?

['Abadi] Can you suggest an alternative to this move?

[Peres] No, I have no alternative to majority rule in a democratic regime.

['Abadc] Then from your point of view you are saying there is no compromise between the Likud and the Alignment's views. After all, your suggestions...

[Peres, interrupting] You are again describing my point of view in your words. Let us describe my views in my language. I did not say what you said. The discussion over Tabah also started out with a ratio of five ministers to five in the Inner Cabinet. You

will no doubt remember this. The same occurred with the withdrawal from Lebanon, which began along a similar dividing line. Now there is also the example of the Jerusalem Electric Company, although I would not like to delve into this issue. Here, too, I say the choice is one of two. The Likud first of all said no, but then it suggested two alternatives that were examined when the Egyptian foreign minister visited. One of them was: Let us return to the Camp David accords, to which the Egyptian foreign minister said: Sorry, this is impossible for the following reasons. First of all, Egypt cannot force the Palestinians to accept something they do not want. Just as you have no power to force anything, we do not have it either. Neither the Palestinians nor the Jordanians accept this proposal. Second, the Egyptians said: We conducted autonomy negotiations for 3 years, but nothing came out of them. So what is the point of going back to them? Third, they said: The negotiations should be conducted with Jordan, but it was not party to the Camp David accords. So even if they are binding on Egypt and Israel, they are not binding on Jordan or the Palestinians. In other words, this alternative is as much as nonexistent.

Then the Likud suggested another alternative: that a kind of international conference, with only U.S. participation, be held. Both the Jordanians and the Egyptians say that this is out of the question. So what is the choice now? It is not only a domestic affair, it is over whether or not we engage in a peace policy. This is what the people will have to vote on. If the public decides against it, then it will not be. I have already been in the minority once before, but now I hope I will be in the majority.

['Abadi] But in terms of elections, the tie again precludes their being held.

[Peres] Indeed, at this stage this is impossible.

['Abadi] So your suggestion — if you will forgive me for putting words in your mouth once again — is to continue to make efforts along the same line until the situation changes?

[Peres] Yes, definitely. I see no other way.

['Abadi] There is no middle way or a compromise.

[Peres] What kind of compromise? I see no other way. I know that this road is long, difficult, and tedious, but what is the alternative: to give it up and surrender? That is not for me. [passage omitted]

Comments on MIG-29's

TA271030 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0930 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres today addressed himself to the point of the supply of MIG-29's to Syria by the Soviets:

[Begin Peres recording] The picture is a mixed one: On the one hand, as you said, they supplied the MIG-29, which did not surprise us. We knew this was going to happen. On the other hand, they said they were not going to position missiles on the Asiatic continent or in the Arab countries. [end recording]

Shim'on Peres, who is visiting Qiryat Hayyim today, was also asked about his attitude toward the Soviet threat to Israel on the Jericho missiles issue.

[Begin Peres recording] I do not think we received a threat. There was an announcement in Hebrew on Moscow radio. We have already heard such things in the past. Our nerves remain steady. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 27 July carries a similar report, adding that "as for Jordan, Mr Peres said Israel knows it is in the midst of negotiations with the Soviet Union on weapons purchases, but we still do not know whether these include MIG-29's as well."]

Peled Comments on Yugoslavia Visit, Possible Ties

TA270626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Telephone interview with Progressive List for Peace Knesset Member [MK] Mati Peled by Shalom Qital — live]

[Text] [Qital] Good morning to you, MK Peled. You have just returned from Yugoslavia, and I understand that you held official meetings there, that this trip was not meant for touring purposes. Is that right?

[Peled] No, it was an official visit in the sense that I received an invitation from an official body and was the guest of this body for the 2 and 1/2 days I spent in Yugoslavia.

[Qital] What is this body?

[Peled] I am referring to the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Yugoslavia, an organization which works parallel to the government. In other words, this is the partisan, political power which shares powers with the government in one form or another.

[Qital] What did you learn there? Is a new wind blowing from the direction of Yugoslavia?

[Peled] Yes, certainly. My invitation was extended by the head of the Foreign Relations Department of the Socialist Alliance, who clearly explained to me that Yugoslavia believes that after a 20-year break, the time has come to form ties with Israel. At this stage there is no talk about renewing diplomatic relations, although I could infer that the intention is to ultimately reach this. In any event, at this stage they want to develop as many ties as possible in all spheres — social, cultural, economic, scientific and personal, to cite some — and the road is wide open for the establishment of these ties.

[Qital] In that case, what should Israel do now?

[Peled] I think that in the first stage, Israel should perhaps accept the invitation I am carrying with me to the Foreign Ministry to send a delegation on a nondiplomatic basis — a representative delegation — to Yugoslavia in the fall, and should perhaps also think about inviting the Yugoslavs to various events which take

place here. I understand that such a trend already exists. For example, they were invited to the international book fair, and they can also be invited to theater festivals or scientific conventions. In brief, we should keep them in mind and drive home the message that they will be welcomed here.

[Qital] I assume they know Israel has no problem forming relations with them. Yugoslavia has not been a Soviet satellite for a long time; it has an independent policy. Why, then, do they not simply renew relations? Why do they need all these slow and gradual steps?

[Peled] I do not think that their overriding consideration is what the USSR is doing, although I was told there that Soviet efforts to form ties with Israel are greatly appreciated. I think their main consideration stems from their position as a Mediterranean country with very close ties to the Arab world. They simply want to proceed in a way which will not cause unnecessary tremors or tensions between them and many Arab countries with which they have had close ties for many years. However, they repeatedly emphasize, for instance, the excellent relations which Tito had with Al-Nasir at the time and Tito's efforts to change Al-Nasir's policy toward Israel. They surely appreciate the fact that Egypt is at peace with Israel today. Thus we are referring to the considerations of a country which is not big but which has highly-developed relations with large segments of the Third World. As a result, it is trying to be doubly careful.

TANJUG Correspondent Makes Contacts To Open Office

TA260915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] A correspondent for the official Yugoslav news agency, TANJUG, has arrived in Israel and contacted the *Government Press Office* in a bid to open a regular TANJUG office in Israel. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that the man is the agency's correspondent in Egypt, Miroslav Visnjic, and adds that he is not expected to be permanently stationed in Israel. Visnjic also reported his intention of contacting the Israeli Foreign Ministry soon.

Foresees Further Steps

TA261722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] There has been another move toward a thaw with Eastern Europe. The official Yugoslav news agency TANJUG has sent a correspondent to Israel to establish an office in Tel Aviv. The correspondent himself will be stationed in Jerusalem. After he set up links with the *Government Press Office*, our correspondent Gid'on Remez spoke with him.

[Begin recording][Remez] Miroslav Visnjic, the TANJUG Cairo correspondent, was happy to be interviewed. At the beginning, he declared: I have come to set up a permanent office here and act as correspondent.

[Visnjic — in English] With diplomatic relations or without diplomatic relations, Israeli-Yugoslav relations always were good. One swallow doesn't make the spring, but anyhow I am the first swallow.

[Remez, paraphrasing Visnjic' remarks] My presence here as the first ever permanent correspondent speaks for itself. It is true that one swallow does not make the spring, but nevertheless I am the first swallow. Additional developments must be expected within the next few months, he said, answering my question about the continuation of the process toward official relations. Matters are changing for the better, slowly but surely. Is this connected with Israel's rapprochement with the other East European countries? No, Visnjic said, Yugoslavia does not belong to the Warsaw Pact and our policy is independent. I actually attribute this improvement to an Israeli.

[Visnjic — in English] The credit belongs to Israeli Foreign Minister Mr Shim'on Peres and his statements, his moves, etc etc.

[Remez] Will there not be criticism in Yugoslavia, with its large Muslim minority? Heaven forbid, Visnjic said, after all, your great chief of staff David El'azar [chief of staff in the Yom Kippur War] came from our Muslin district Bosnia. Hayim Bar-Lev too, I said. No, Visnjic, who has already visited here several times, corrected me; Bar-Lev comes from Croatia. [end recording]

Rabin Denies U.S. Demands on RSA Contracts

TA261349 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1330 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] At today's Cabinet session Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin denied reports publicized in the media saying that the United States has demanded that Israel cancel all its military contracts with South Africa. Our correspondent 'Oz Frankel notes that the Inner Cabinet had decided that Israel would not extend those defense contracts with South Africa whose validity had expired. No decision was made about contracts that are still valid.

Attacks U.S. Congress Proposal

TA261725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today attacked a proposal by the U.S. Congress that Israel immediately cut its defense links with South Africa. A Voice of Israel reporter says Rabin claimed the United States had no right to pressurize Israel on this matter.

Tamir Optimistic on Chances for Conference

TA251209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir says the activity toward the convocation of an international conference has already gained an unstoppable momentum. The process is stronger than the people dealing with it; it will last a

long time during which governments and the people manning them will change.

Director General Tamir said that during Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid's talks in Israel last week, it has been learned that impressive progress was made in regard to the Palestinian representation at the conference and the powers the conference will have.

Avraham Tamir told our political correspondent that although additional problems have been created, particularly with the Soviet Union, it is nevertheless possible to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Whatever has already been achieved exceeds the remaining difficulties.

Peres: 'Abd al-Majid Promises Ra's al-Burqah Reply

TA261341 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1330 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has promised to answer the Israeli appeal on the matter of indemnities to the Ra's al-Burqah victims within 10 days. This was reported to the Cabinet today by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Our political correspondent notes that the Egyptians are insisting that the families' demand for indemnities be debated before a special court in Cairo, while Israel wants early negotiations to be conducted on the amount of the indemnities.

Military Attache Yaron Denies Intention To Resign

TA241001 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
24 Jul 87 pp 1,2

[Report by David Makovsky]

[Excerpt] Washington. — Tat-Aluf [Brigadier General] Amos Yaron, military attache in Washington, has decided on his own initiative to resign for reasons related to a lingering controversy regarding his alleged role in not preventing the massacre by Christain Phalangists at the Sabra-Shatila camps in Lebanon, informed sources disclosed yesterday.

Yaron, who enjoys diplomatic immunity, is awaiting a dismissal motion — on immunity grounds — of a U.S. District Court case claiming monetary damages brought by survivors of the Shatila camp before he resigns, the sources said.

When reached for comment, Yaron denied in a statement that he offered his resignation to Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin during his visit here earlier this month. The statement said Yaron "will stay" at his post. The Israeli Embassy refused to comment on this issue.

The sources are confident that U.S. District Court Judge Norma Johnson will accept a motion of dismissal based on Yaron's claim of diplomatic immunity, and it could be as early as the end of next month. Yaron is expected to depart soon after the decision. [passage omitted]

Antipov Says Private Trip to Cyprus for Rest

TA251822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Yevgeniy Antipov, the head of the Soviet consular delegation, has denied reports that he had left for Cyprus to meet with his superiors. He said his trip was a private one, for rest purposes. According to him, work in Israel is pleasant but very tiring.

'No Political Message' in Russian Bishop's Visit

TA270447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] A delegation from the Russian Orthodox Church arrived in Israel last night. The delegation is here to attend festivities marking the 140th anniversary of the establishment of the Russian Orthodox Church mission in Jerusalem, and it will meet with President Hayim Herzog. The delegation's head, Bishop Filaret, who heads the Foreign Affairs Division of the Soviet Church, told reporters at the airport that he has come to Israel as a religious man and there is no political message involved in his visit.

Desert Research Workers Guests at PRC Institute

TA261735 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Five Israeli research workers are currently in China as official guests of the Chinese Academy's [not further identified] Desert Research Institute. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch reports that they were invited to participate in an international seminar the Chinese institute is holding. The five had established relations with Chinese research workers at a similar seminar held in Egypt.

Air Force Helicopters Destroy 'Terrorist' Boat

TA251817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Israeli Air Force assault helicopters yesterday morning destroyed a terrorists' boat in the Al-Qir'awn lake in the eastern sector in southern Lebanon. All our helicopters returned safely to base. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this is the first attack by the Air Force in an area under Syrian aegis. The boat that was destroyed belonged to an organization called the Syrian National Party [Miflaga Le'umit Surit].

IDF Kills 7 'Terrorists' in Clash South of Sidon

TA270435 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] An IDF force has killed seven terrorists south of Sidon. Our forces sustained no casualties. An IDF force clashed with terrorists during an expedition south of Sidon last night. Several terrorists were killed and several others wounded in the encounter. Our forces returned safely to base. Last night's mission is part of activity aimed at thwarting terrorist acts in southern

Lebanon. AFP reported that seven terrorists were killed. As said, our forces sustained no casualties.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal adds that the IDF force made a surprise landing by sea and carried out a precise mission against terrorist targets. At one point the force came across a Landrover vehicle belonging to the terrorists and destroyed it. During the operation, Israel Air Force assault helicopters were flying in the area. News agencies report from Lebanon that Israeli Navy ships provided cover for the force.

Our correspondent adds that in recent months the terrorists have increased their efforts to organize in the refugee camps region. Last night's IDF operation is the first of its kind recently.

Jordanian Officials Visit West Bank, Yafo
TA261332 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Jul 87 p A2

[Report by Shefi Gabay]

[Text] Senior-level Jordanian officials recently visited Judaea and Samaria and Israel to examine various aspects of pro-Jordanian activities such as educational issues, banks, and activity supported by the Jordanian Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Holy Places, and Religious Trusts.

Jordanian officials who came to Israel recently helped in arranging the Israeli Arabs' pilgrimage to holy places in Saudi Arabia. They also visited the Hasan Bakk Mosque in Yafo to study the renovation work on the mosque at close hand. Several Arab countries including Jordan have taken part in the reconstruction project.

A Jordanian envoy on behalf of Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i is now in Nabulus checking various aspects of the educational establishment with those responsible.

These visits to the territories and Israel by Jordanian officials are within the framework of the implementation of Jordan's 5-year economic plan for the inhabitants of the territories and Jerusalem. As part of the plan additional Jordanian officials will be coming to Israel in the future to keep an eye on the development of various projects.

USSR Reportedly To Supply MIG-29's, SAM Missiles

JN261000 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Jul (QNA) — Press reports have said here that the Soviet Union has agreed to supply Jordan with advanced Soviet MIG-29's and a network of SAM-7 and SAM-9 antiaircraft missiles after recent unannounced talks between the two countries in Moscow.

Citing informed diplomatic sources, the newspaper *Al-Ittihad* said that Jordan acquired the Soviet weaponry with new payment and interest terms. The paper points out that this deal falls within Jordan's policy of diversifying its sources of weapons, which it began to follow after its disagreement with Washington. The paper says contacts have been made recently with Italy, Spain, West Germany, and Britain in implementation of this policy.

King Husayn on Peace Conference, U.S. Ties, USSR

JN220945 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Jul 87 pp 1, 25

[Text] Paris — His Majesty King Husayn has said that the convocation of the international conference should be at the invitation of the UN secretary general and be attended by the parties to the conflict and the UN Security Council's five permanent members. In a statement to the French magazine *Politique Internationale*, his majesty added that the aim of the conference is to implement Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to find a solution to all aspects of the Palestine question. He said it would be inappropriate to speak about the Middle East problem without the Palestinians being at the heart of this dialogue.

His majesty said the recently declared stands by the EC states on the international conference and Soviet support for it are encouraging. This leaves the stands of the United States and Israel as the main obstacles to the convocation of the conference. His majesty added that recent developments in Arab-U.S. relations exposed the U.S. policy toward Iraq. Thus, Washington's policy in this regard must clearly and frankly develop because, despite the progress that has been achieved in favor of the international conference, this progress remains minimal as a result of the change in U.S. policy. In reply to a question about the Jordanian- Palestinian agreement, his majesty said the agreement embodies the feelings of the Palestinians as well as the Jordanians. He said: We all insist on the restoration of all the occupied Arab territories and on a comprehensive solution to the Palestine question to achieve peace.

Replying to a question about Resolution 242 and the fact that it deals with the Palestine question as merely a refugee problem, His Majesty King Husayn said it has been frequently stated that Resolution 242 is insufficient. Actually, it would be appropriate to specify that this text be included within the framework of the search for a suitable solution to all aspects of the Palestine question. Regarding the development plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, his majesty said: We have always extended support to our kinfolk in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as much as our capabilities would allow, in view of the suffering of our brothers in these territories. We have assisted them so that they may remain steadfast, and we have supported their struggle. As far as the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for developing the occupied territories is concerned, when it receives financial contributions its memebrs meet to discuss ways of using these funds. The committee also tries to bolster the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied land. Moreover, these actions stem from a joint Arab decision taken at the Baghdad summit. Therefore, there is no contradiction between these various initiatives.

Replying to a question about the Gulf war and Jordan's support for Iraq, his majesty said that Iraq is a fraternal Arab country and a member of the Arab League and has always stood alongside us in our battles. At any rate, we stand alongside Iraq and defend its cause because it is a just cause. Iraq is right, and we must not forget that it was forced to fight because Iran violated the border agreement between the two countries. Although the Iraqis are fighting in this war to defend their land and Arab identity, they do not want this war to continue and have supported all initiatives aimed at ending this 7-year-old war. Replying to a question about the so-called war of hostages which has expanded and affects a large part of the Middle East, his majesty said that those who attack innocent people are terrorists. He said such practices are alien to our beliefs and traditions and place our Arab and Islamic worlds in a regrettable position. We are pained by these actions, he added. Those who agree to cooperate with these criminals should realize that they are encouraging them to continue their criminals actions.

Regarding the policy of the superpowers in the region, his majesty said the U.S. policy is dangerous and that statements by U.S. officials claiming good relations with the Arab world are not based on any facts. They are mere claims aimed at portraying these relations as satisfactory. I believe these relations have reached an unprecedented low, his majesty said. We are paying close attention to the USSR's role, especially since the new regime came to power. Undoubtedly, Gorbachev's initiative on disarmament can have a positive impact on international relations. Moreover, the USSR has adopted a constructive stand on our proposal on the international conference. Undoubtedly, we agree with the USSR's analysis of the methods to achieve to a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem. He said that France and the EC can also play a significant role in the Middle East issue.

AL-RA'Y Criticizes U.S. 'Show of Force' in Gulf

JN231048 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Jul 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The UN Security Council Resolution and the U.S. Show of Force in the Gulf"]

[Text] It is necesssary to point out that the UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate and mandatory cease-fire on the Iraqi-Iranian front did not necessitate the U.S. naval show of force which appeared in the Gulf a few hours after its issuance. It is no secret that the UN Security Council resolution derives its strength from its legitimacy and from unprecedented international unanimity. Consequently, the U.S. show of force in the Gulf is not a source of strength for this resolution. On the contrary, the organizers of this show preferred to wait for the resolution to be issued in order to use it as "a moral force" that backs the show of force itself.

In light of this fact, it should be noted that the UN Security Council resolution was not issued to provide a moral cover for any show of force by any side. It was issued to end the 7-year-old tragedy between Iraq and Iran. Naturally, this does not indicate approval of the Iranian obstruction of the freedom of navigation in the Gulf. What is certain is the need to respect the noble meaning and sublime goal of the resolution, and to avert anything suggesting that this resolution could be employed to support a show of force of any type whatsoever.

One cannot but condemn the Iranian rejection of the UN Security Council resolution. Meanwhile, one can only express surprise at the timing chosen by the organizers of the U.S. naval show of force in the Gulf. Moreover, nobody views any superpower show of force in the Gulf as a factor helping to restore peace and stability to the region.

We certainly support and back the UN Security Council resolution, but we do not see any reason for the deliberate association between it and the U.S. show of force, particularly since many fear that this will overshadow the resolution. Sufficient time should have been given for implementation of the resolution and for convincing those who oppose it, instead of diverting attention from it to the U.S. naval show of force — a show which many people are not happy about and which certainly came at an improper time.

AL-RA'Y Warns of U.S., Israeli 'Collusion'
JN260848 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Jul 87 p 1

[Editorial: "U.S. Credibility Between Irangate and Jericho-2"]

[Text] While the implications of and actions relating to the Irangate scandal are still emerging in the U.S., thereby affecting U.S. credibility in the Gulf, we notice that the U.S. role in helping Israel carry out experiments on a long-range nuclear missile also exposes U.S. credibility toward peace in our region. It affirms that the U.S. collusion which created Irangate and helped Israel with the Jericho-2 missile is a deliberate strategy, not a coincidence.

Just as the United States and Israel played a joint role in rekindling the Gulf war, we find they are now teaming up to terrorize our region with the nuclear missile threat. In both cases, this indicates that U.S. credibility does not exist.

We also notice that the USSR, which has warned the United States against turning the Gulf into a flashpoint of international conflict, has taken the initiative of warning Israel against the nuclear missile threat which it is preparing. This shows the positive and supportive Soviet stand toward peace in the Gulf and in our region.

It is time Washington realized that the attempt to subjugate the region to the Israeli nuclear missile threat has indeed entered into USSR calculations. The USSR has directly warned Israel that it considers the building of the Jericho-2 missile a threat to its territories. It is also time Washington realized that this attempt could involve the region in the conflict between the two superpowers and deprive the region of cherished peace.

AFP Report on Group's Communique on Hostages

NC241642 Paris AFP in English 1619 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Shtawrah, Lebanon, July 24 (AFP) — The Organization for Truth Against Falsehood (OTAF) said on Saturday [as received] it would "pass sentence" on a French hostage if France did not remove a blockade around the Iranian Embassy in Paris within 48 hours.

The group, which has claimed without proof the July 1 kidnapping of U.S. journalist Charles Glass, demanded "for the last time" that French authorities lift the siege, or the group would "pass sentence" against French cameraman Jean-Louis Normandin, 35.

The typewritten Arabic communique was delivered to a news agency correspondent in this eastern Al-Biqa' valley town.

French police have blockaded the Iranian Embassy in Paris since June 30 after an Iranian diplomat — sought for questioning by a French magistrate in connection with bomb attacks in the French capital in 1985 and 1986 — took refuge inside the embassy.

Iran's refusal to let the official be questioned was the main issue that led France to break diplomatic ties with Tehran three weeks later. Iran reciprocated the move.

The threat was accompanied by a grammatically unsound letter supposedly written by Mr Glass.

OTAF had claimed it had kidnapped Mr Glass on July 1 near Beirut's mostly-Shi'ite southern suburbs without supplying any evidence.

The claim was subsequently challenged by the Organization for the Defense of Free Peoples, which sent to a Western news agency on July 7 a videotape showing Mr Glass accusing himself of being a spy for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr Normandin's abduction March 8, 1986, had been claimed by the Organisation of Revolutionary Justice, which had also supplied proof of its claim.

The letter attributed to Mr Glass also refers to Terry Waite, the Anglican Church's envoy who disappeared in Beirut in January when he was negotiating the release of some of the Westerners held in Lebanon.

"I've been kidnap because I am an American spy," the awkward, handwritten letter said. "I begged to my government to give every thing to the kidnappers and say to my wife to go to my friend to help me. And that is not for me only but for Terry Waite because he is very ill and he becomes worse and worse."

Twenty-five Western hostages — including 10 U.S. citizens and six Frenchmen — are being held in Lebanon.

The leader of the fundamentalist Islamic Amal Organisation, Husayn Musawi, said in statements published Friday that Western hostages were being held by "different parties ... who must have good relations with the Islamic Republic (Iran)."

AL-SAFIR Reports Kidnappers' Threats, Demands

NC271030 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 25 Jul 87 P 5

[Text] A secret group calling itself "The Organization of Truth against Falsehood" has threatened to try French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin if France does not lift the siege on the Iranian Embassy within 48 hours.

In a typewritten statement in Arabic delivered to the *Al-Safir* office in Al-Biqa', the organization demanded that "no illegal measure be taken against Muslim nationals in France."

The organization said: "The hand of truth against falsehood will strike at French and U.S. interests in the heart of France, if need be."

The organization also addressed a warning to the reactionary states (Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt) to maintain their Islamism and release 17 prisoners from the Kuwaiti Government prisons. Our organization will strike at all Kuwaiti interests if this demand is not met, the statement continued.

The message included passages written in poor English, which the organization said were excerpts from statements made by Charles Glass while he and his fellow hostage Terry Waite were on trial. According to these statements, Glass says that he is "a spy and appeals to the U.S. Government to meet the demands of his kidnappers." He indicates that Waite is "very ill;" his health is deteriorating and "requires the intervention of a doctor."

U.S. Teachers Allegedly Held by Amal, Not Hizballah

NC261118 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1058 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] A Hizballah official, who refused to give his name, has affirmed that the four teachers who were kidnapped from the Beirut University College in January are not being held hostage by Hizballah, although, he pointed out, Hizballah is holding other hostages. The official said that the Higher Security Committee, which was headed by the late Prime Minister Rashid Karami, has at its disposal all the information regarding the foreign hostages and their whereabouts. A Palestinian source has asserted that the U.S. teachers Alann Steen, Jesse Turner, and Robert Polhill, as well as the Indian professor Singh, were kidnapped by the Amal Movement and that he knows the names of the Amal members who carried out the kidnappings. The source added that the teachers are currently under Syrian protection.

New Group Threatens to Strike at Italian Interests

NC242112 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] An unidentified person has contacted the office of an Italian news agency and threatened that the Islamic Jihad

Against the Oppressors organization [Munazamat al-Jihad al-Islami Didd al-Zalimin] will strike at Italian interests if Rome agrees to take care of French interests in Iran.

Syrian Soldiers Guarding French Embassy

NC260555 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Syrian soldiers have assumed security for the French Embassy in West Beirut in the wake of threats that pro-Iranian fundamentalists will carry out acts of vengeance against France following the diplomatic crisis with Iran.

'Green Cells' Warn Swiss Not to Hand Over Hijacker

NC251034 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1023 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] A previously unknown organization calling itself The Green Cells [Al-Khalaya al-Khadra'] issued a statement at noon today, warning the Swiss authorities that it will strike against all Swiss establishments in the region if the Swiss Government hands struggler Husayn al-Hariri over to the French authorities. It should be recalled that Hariri was detained while trying to hijack an African airliner yesterday.

Birri Denounces Hijacking

NC251427 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, has sent cables to French President Francois Mitterrand, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, and the president of the Congo denouncing the aircraft hijacking incident and extending his condolences on the death of a French citizen.

Swiss Adopt Security Measures

NC260503 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0452 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] AFP reports that Husayn 'Ali Muhammad al-Hariri, who hijacked an African airliner yesterday [as heard], has stated that he killed the French citizen because this is the only logic France understands. Swissair has expressed concern and declared that it will tighten security measures on board its flights and in its offices throughout the world.

Meanwhile, Swiss nationals and Red Cross employees in Beirut have taken additional security measures in the wake of threats to strike at Swiss interests if the Swiss Government hands Al-Hariri over to France.

Al-Hariri's Father Comments

NC260546 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0455 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Official sources in Geneva have reported that the hijacking of the Air Afrique plane was planned in southern Lebanon by pro-Iranian Islamic groups.

While Swiss President Pierre Aubert has stressed that [Air Afrique plane hijacker] Husayn al-Hariri will be put on trial in Switzerland, Al-Hariri's father, who lives in Dayr Qanun al-Nahr, maintains that the picture of the hijacker published in the papers is not that of his son Husayn. He added that his son, who is 21 years old and who has spent some time in the Ansar and 'Atlit prisons, left for the Central African Republic 1 month ago. Reiterating that the hijacker's photo published in Beirut is not that of his son, he pointed out that he is trying to get in touch with him in the Central African Republic, where he runs a shop.

Nabil al-Ramlawi, the PLO representative in Geneva who negotiated with the hijacker while the plane was parked on the tarmac of the Geneva Airport, has quoted the hijacker as saying that he killed the French passenger because this is the only language the French understand. He noted that Al-Hariri is a member of a pro-Iranian Islamic group. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Demonstrators March in Southern Suburb

NC241845 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] In response to a call from Hizballah and in protest against the UN Security Council resolution on ending the Iran-Iraq war, a huge popular demonstration has taken place in the southern suburb. Setting off from the Bi'r al-'Abd mosque, the demonstrators marched through the streets of Harat, Hurayk, and Al-Ghubayrah. The march ended in front of the Iranian Embassy in Bi'r Hasan.

Call for 'Suicidal Attacks'

NC250503 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0425 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] In Beirut, Hizballah has launched a campaign calling for suicide operations against France and the United States. Ibrahim al-Amin, the Hizballah spokesman in Lebanon, has stated: Effective today, the door is wide open in Lebanon for those who want to volunteer for carrying out suicidal attacks now that the major states have declared war on Islam and the Muslims.

Al-Amin added: These states have no place here in Lebanon. We actually taught them a lesson when we buried them in Lebanon. He was referring to the destruction of the U.S. Marine headquarters and that of the French unit in Beirut when the multinational force had a presence there.

A Hizballah demonstration started off from the Bi'r al-'Abd Mosque in the southern suburb yesterday. The demonstrators, who wore black masks and carried Kalashnikov rifles, shouted anti-French and anti-U.S. slogans. Caricature posters of Presidents Mitterrand and Reagan and Kuwaiti Amir Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah were set on fire.

Ulema Urge Anti-U.S. Slogans on Pilgrimage

NC260611 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Excerpt] The Grouping of Islamic Ulema in Lebanon has appealed to pilgrims to raise the slogan of "Death to America, Russia, France, Israel, and all the enemies of God, Islam, and Humanity."

In a statement issued by the grouping, the ulema said that all the arrogant international powers, foremost among whom are the great satan, the United States, and the red satan, Russia, have joined ranks to strike at the path of faith, the path of the Islamic revolution. [passage omitted]

Amal Movement Criticizes UN Resolution on Gulf War

NC250651 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] The Amal Movement has issued a statement criticizing the UN Security Council resolution on the Iraq-Iran war. The statement asks why the Security Council does not condemn Israel, since it carries out acts of aggression against the south. The Amal Movement further declares that the threat to world peace and security does not come from Iran, but rather from the United States, which has sent its fleets to the Gulf waters.

Al-Jumayyil 'Will Not Allow' Pound to Deteriorate

NC251435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] President Amin al-Jumayyil today received Shaykh Amin Nassar, chairman of the Higher Judicial Council, and Milhim Karam, chairman of the Editors Association. They have quoted President al-Jumayyil as insisting that the investigation into the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami should take its full course and affirming that no one can limit the authority of the judicial investigator or obstruct his work. Karam quoted President al-Jumayyil as saying that the regime will not allow a further deterioration in the value of the Lebanese pound. Regarding reports about the Army, President al-Jumayyil asserted that he believes the Army is sound and that reports about it do not reflect the truth.

Karam also called on Information Minister Joseph Skaf, who affirmed that reconciliation must be achieved, no matter what it takes, in order to end Lebanon's ordeal.

Amal's Birri Discusses Economy, Sidon Situation

NC241512 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri disclosed that during his meeting with PSP Political Bureau member Akram Shuhayyib today, discussion had centered on the convocation of a meeting of some leaders of the Unification and Liberation Front in order to devise a joint formula to facilitate the implementation of the principles that constitute the basis for this front.

In another development, Nabih Birri has contacted Chamber Speaker Husayn al-Husayni. Birri said that their discussion focused on the banking situation. He also revealed that he had expressed pessimism to the Chamber speaker about the way in which the economic situation is being managed. Birri insisted on implementing the plan he had presented, which is tantamount to a temporary measure to protect and revive the Lebanese pound. He added: We hope that those who are eager to safeguard the free economy system will study the plan in a realistic manner. In the meantime, Birri stated, Speaker al-Husayni has promised to refer the plan to the appropriate parliamentary committees.

Replying to a question about the situation east of Sidon, Birri said: We do not want to anticipate matters. During their meetings with the detainees, the members of the investigating committee ascertained that all of the accusations that have been leveled against the Amal Movement have been mere lies. We are waiting for the facts to be announced to the Palestinian public first and then to the Lebanese public. You have noticed that several persons were killed when bullets and shells were directed at Al-Ghaziyah yesterday, concurrent with the arrival of the investigating committee in Tyre. The purpose of this eruption was to thwart and deter the committee from carrying out its task.

Birri concluded by saying: We are waiting for the final statements which the investigating committee, as well as the national Palestinian leaders, will issue following the conclusion of the investigations.

Damascus Report on Unification, Liberation Front

JN260708 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] At a major news conference in Beirut yesterday, nationalist, progressive Lebanese parties announced the establishment of the Unification and Liberation Front [Jabhat al-Tawhid wa al-Tahrir] to cope with the demands of the coming phase in Lebanon. The news conference was attended by Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of PSP; Comrade 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon; George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Popular Nasirite Organization; and 'Ali 'Id, secretary general of the Arab Democratic Party. This is in addition to other party, trade unionist, and popular leaders, as well as a large number of local, Arab, and foreign news correspondents.

A statement read by Comrade Qansuh at the beginning of the news conference said that the assassination of Rashid Karami represents a major turning point in the Lebanese crisis which has an impact on all political levels and on the development of events in Lebanon and the region. He asserted that the brave Syrian Arab initiative in sending the Syrian Arab Army forces to West Beirut has opened a wide door for national salvation. This initiative represents to nationalist forces of all trends a big opportunity to reactivate their national plan. This initiative also represents new hope to all Lebanese and an opportunity to carry out the peace plan and reunify Lebanon on a firm political accord that enables the Lebanese to finally evict Israel from their political life and end its military occupation and extensions. The

statement referred to the state of weakness and division of the nationalist line. It emphasized the need to overcome weakness and division through a real settlement of all points of disagreement. This settlement would lead, by actions not words, to the unification of the stands and political actions of all sides and ensure a high-level political immunity for the national plan, enabling it to stand firmly against all divisive plans in the confrontation with the enemy. The statement said that achievement of a unified political program calls for immediate, earnest action on the following basic issues:

1. Unifying the nationalist areas and molding them into a solid political front as the first step in the greater plan to liberate and unify Lebanon.

2. Acting on all fronts to resist the Israeli occupation and its agents at home, to earnestly and effectively join the resistance ranks, and to devote all resources to liberation and to confronting Israel's aggression and plan to Zionize and divide Lebanon, under the command of a joint operations room.

3. Reorganizing Palestinian-Lebanese relations on sound bases and avoiding a return to the conditions that prevailed before 1982 in accordance with the following principles:

A. The Lebanese nationalist forces, which adhere to the line of national resistance against the occupation and its symbols, reject 'Arafat's capitulationist line, condemn the deviationist line of the current PLO leadership, and declare their support for the forces rejecting this line. These forces, led by the PNSF, stand for the Palestinian people's struggle inside the occupied territory.

B. The struggle course of the Palestinians and Lebanese calls for a brave appraisal of the pre-1982 phase. This appraisal should absolutely reject the chaotic acts witnessed by that phase under cover of the Cairo agreement, which was never carried out by 'Arafat and his group. This agreement collapsed when 'Arafat and his men submitted to the U.S.-Israeli logic and signed the Philip Habib document which led to their exit after the Israeli invasion. This appraisal should also reject the attempts by 'Arafat and others to adhere to this agreement.

C. The nationalist forces reject all forms of Palestinian resettlement and armed expansion outside the camps. This calls for immediate withdrawal from east Sidon. The responsibility for ending this expansion falls on the entire [Unification and Liberation] Front and the PNSF.

D. The nationalist forces consider the deviation of the current PLO leadership under 'Arafat as responsible for frustrating Palestinian armed resistance in Lebanon and elsewhere, which calls for a corrective movement in the Palestinian arena and the formulation of new Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

E. In light of the above, and out of its awarness of its pan-Arab responsibilities, the Front believes that the new national framework for Lebanese-Palestinian relationship is the Damascus Agreement, signed on 17 June 1985. The implementation of this agreement ensures the true guarantee for the struggle line that unites the Lebanese and Palestinians and their national forces and serves the two causes and also the demands of the pan-Arab strategic decisionmaking assumed by Syria.

During this news conference, the Unification and Liberation Front program was announced. This Front seeks to mobilize the nationalist, democratic forces which reject all forms of division, classification, and discrimination on communal and sectarian basis. It also believes that Lebanon should be a democratic and independent Arab homeland, unified within the framework of the Front's action to fortify the Lebanese arena and to reorganize it on the political, security, and economic levels. The Front considers the nationalist areas to be a single struggle unit and a free starting point for all forces that sincerely seek to resist the Israeli enemy; to strengthen the struggle to liberate Lebanese territory; to restore the unity of Lebanon; to safeguard national independence; and to confront all forms of partition, federal plans cantons, and self-security. The Front emphasizes Lebanon's Arabism, which conflicts with isolationism's mentality, programs, and actions. The acknowledgement of Lebanon's Arabism makes it incumbent on Lebanon to abide by the Arab liberation struggle, which is hostile to imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. In this respect, the distinquished pan-Arab relationship with Syria represents the basis of Lebanon's Arabism and the gateway to the Arab homeland. It is a relationship of common destiny and interests, as well as historical bonds between the two peoples. This relationship has been further strengthened by the common struggle against Israeli occupation, the imperialist forces, and the partition plans.

The Front affirmed in its program that it is in Lebanon's interest to formulate this distinguished pan-Arab relationship legally [huquqiyan] through coordination and integration agreements covering all affairs, especially defense, security, foreign policy, education, and economy for the well-being of the two twin countries.

The Front also emphasized the strong struggle relationship between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. It is of the opinion that the pan-Arab concept of the battle of confrontation with the Zionist expansionist plan necessitates the condemnation of capitulationist plans from Camp David to the 'Arafatist line, which seeks to liquidate the Palestinian question through separate solutions.

The Front outlined a number of reforms on the Lebanese internal level and in other fields as well. The Front believes complete coordination between the Lebanese Army and the Syrian Arab Army should protect Lebanese national security from outside dangers and ambitions, since Lebanon's security is part of Syria's security and vice versa. This security depends on the growing Syrian military capabilities in the effort to achieve strategic parity with the Zionist enemy. This revolutionary Arab power is a force, for Lebanon and its nationalist parties, that will enable the liberation of Lebanese territory and the achievement of its unity.

The organizational structure of the Front was announced during the news conference.

Islamic Grouping Stand on Front

NC260640 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Citing a source from the Islamic Grouping, the Lebanese News Agency has reported that this grouping is not involved in any way with the Unification and Liberation Front. The source added that it is similar to all previous fronts which have not achieved any positive results.

Pro-Ja'ja', Pro-Al-Jumayyil Gunmen Clash

NC241814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] According to reports, there have been clashes between gunmen loyal to Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja' and other gunmen loyal to President Amin al-Jumayyil in the Biskinta region [in Upper al-Matn]. The reports add that reinforcements for both warring factions have begun to arrive. They further note that the sound of gunfire can still be heard in the area.

Syrian National Reportedly Kills 8 Phalangists

NC271345 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] According to reports from East Beirut, a Syrian national who had been detained by the Phalangist Forces 4 months ago in the town of Tartij in the Jubayl District was killed today after he first killed eight Phalangist personnel. The reports also state that the Phalangist Forces had forced him to work in their barracks in the town and that he had tried to escape three times before but had failed. Meanwhile, a forensic doctor went to Tartij to examine the bodies. Samir Ja'ja' also went to offer condolences, as some of the dead were his close followers.

Amal's Dawud Discusses South, Palestinians

NC261423 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Dawud Dawud, member of the Amal Political Bureau, has declared that all crimes committed in the south are political. Their goal was to imply that the Amal Movement has not provided security in this area and has been unable to guarantee coexistence between Lebanese and Paletinians, Christians and Muslims, or the Amal Movement and the Communist Party. Dawud said that these crimes were directed against Amal.

Speaking to foreign journalists visiting the Tyre area yesterday, Dawud noted that Amal's moves to identify and arrest the criminals coincided with PLO statements claiming that Amal harasses and evicts Palestinians. He said: We are not rich enough to pay off the media, but the PLO can buy world opinion. He added: We believe that the PLO is waging a real war against our people in the south. The media accuse us of being criminals who surround the camps, making the camps and their inhabitants prisoners. He stated: The southern villages come under daily, indiscriminate artillery shelling by Israel, and Ghaziyah comes under direct artillery shelling from Palestinian camps in east Sidon. 'Arafat must continue his struggle against Israel, not against our people here.

Addressing the journalists, Dawud said: You have undoubtedly noticed that there are no longer young men in the camps here. They have gone to the camps in Sidon and 'Ayn al-Hulwah to participate in the fighting against us. He added: We want dignified coexistence. However, the decision rests with the people in the south, and no one will be permitted to determine our fate or make decisions for us.

We read for you now questions which the reporters asked Dawud and his responses.

Question: Is Amal prepared to defend the south in the event of a new Israeli incursion?

Answer: Amal has fought and will continue to fight to defend the south, and it will continue the war against the Israeli enemy.

Question: Do you believe there will be a new Israeli incursion?

Answer: I do not believe there will be a new incursion because of Israel's experience the first time.

Question: Do you permit the Palestinians to carry out military actions?

Answer: The Paletinian resistance was present in the south before 1982. It failed. The Palestinians fled during the invasion and left us to resist alone. Their leaders remained in Tunisia. Yet we encourage resistance within the occupied territory or the security zone. We believe the Palestinians are entitled to the same rights as the Lebanese, except for citizenship.

Amal Urges Efforts to Block New 'Arafat 'War'

NC251829 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] A statement issued by the Amal Movement has appealed to Arab and international public opinion, all local and international humanitarian institutions, the UN Security Council, the United Nations, and all forces that sympathize with the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples to block the path to new strife and a war declared by Yasir 'Arafat on the areas around the Palestinian camps. The statement says that the Amal Movement opposes segregation and, at the same time, rejects a return to the pre-1982 situation.

Releases 25 Palestinians

NC271336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] According to security sources, the Amal Movement released 25 Palestinian detainees from the Burj al-Shamali camp at 1330 today.

Israeli Helicopter Strafes SSNP Boat in Al-Qir'awn

NC250809 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] said an Israeli helicopter strafed a boat belonging to the SSNP's branch in western Al-Biqa'. The boat was at anchor in Al-Qir'awn Lake.

Israeli Gunboats Bombard Palestinian Positions

NC270453 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Usamah Sa'd, deputy commander of the Popular Liberation Army, has stated that seven of his fighters were killed at approximately midnight in an ambush by Israeli soldiers in Sidon. According to Sa'd, two Popular Liberation Army vehicles were patrolling the Sidon coastal road when they were attacked by unidentified gunmen using rocket-launchers and machineguns. Meanwhile, other elements from the Popular Liberation Army searched the area, confronting some Israeli soldiers and finding two rocket-launchers with Hebrew markings near the coast.

Israeli gunboats have been sighted off the Sidon coast since the ambush, and Israeli helicopters have dropped flares over the Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps. According to security reports, the Israeli gunboats bombarded Palestinian positions in the areas of Jisr Sayniq and Al-Shawakir at approximately midnight.

Resistance Attacks Israeli, Lahd Forces in South

NC271137 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Using light- and medium-caliber machineguns and rockets, a group of the Forces of the Deprived attacked a position jointly held by Israeli forces and their agents in the border area of Yarin at dawn today. A 15-minute clash ensued. Two observation posts were destroyed, a tank was damaged, and no fewer than 15 personnel were killed or wounded.

Meanwhile, another group fired rockets at an enemy artillery position in the Balat border area, scoring accurate hits. Fire was seen raging at the post. The agents' radio admitted the two attacks, claiming that three agents were killed and two others were wounded.

Explosion at Hubayqah Headquarters Kills 5

NC241721 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Five persons were killed and several others were injured today in an explosion at [former Lebanese Forces Commander] Elie Hubayqah's Beirut Barracks Headquarters located behind the Al-Qadiri hotel in Zahlah. Reports indicate that members of the Hubayqah group and some detainees were among those killed.

Information Minister Leaves for Paris 25 Jul

NC251933 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Information Minister Joseph Skaf left today for Paris, where he is expected to meet with a number of French officials, including the foreign relations and information ministers, to discuss various aspects of the Lebanese issue.

AL-BA'TH Stresses 'Unwavering' National Stance

PM230843 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 9 Jul 87 p 1

[Editorial by Chief Editor Turki Saqr: "Nobody Can Impose Anything on Syria Against Its Will"]

[Excerpts] We do not believe anyone can deny that Syria has been subject to considerable and varied pressure over the past years, or deny Syria's ability to counter this pressure and successfully travel difficult roads and pass severe tests. This would not have been possible if Syria did not have great political weight in the region or if it did not stand on firm ground, with sound vision, in pursuit of firm objectives from which it never departs and over which it never bargains at any price. [passage omitted]

In view of Syria's principled stance, its relations with some states have often noticeably fluctuated between normal, bad, and tense, depending on the positions taken by these states on the central cause of the Arab masses or their attitude and practices in relation to Arab rights.

All this, however, does not mean that in its attitude to other states Syria should go to the point of provocation, boycott, or unjustified tension. Syria believes that current world circumstances call for and, in fact, necessitate the existence of normal relations between states, with open channels of dialogue between them. This is so that each side can submit its views and convey its positions through these channels, without the dialogue and exchange of views meaning that one side should abandon its position and go over to the other.

There can be no doubt that in modern times dialogue is a good and important way of learning the views of others on various issues. However, agreeing to dialogue does not mean that the views of the other side are acceptable or have become acceptable, nor does it mean imposing any particular viewpoint on others. [passage omitted]

Syria's history and record of dealing with other states confirm and leave no room for doubt that Syria adheres to and defends its principles with unwavering conviction in all international circles and in all its talks, negotiations, and contacts. It does not play two opposite games, speak with two tongues, pursue two different policies, forfeit any right, or abandon any position in response to terrorism, intimidation, or enticement. The whole world is well aware of this Syrian policy. Everyone should also know and understand quite clearly that nobody can impose anything on Syria against its will, now or in the future.

AL-THAWRAH Praises Lebanese Front Formation

JN240739 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial today, *Al-Thawrah* says: With the formation of the Unification and Liberation Front, Lebanese nationalist and progressive parties proclaim their ability to act decisively. They also announce their determination to confront the conspiracy and all its ramifications. Israel, its agents, and the 'Arafatist capitulatory trend are trying to carry out this conspiracy, and they also have designs to undermine stability in Lebanon. This would serve Israel's objectives of partitioning Lebanon and establishing cantons there.

Al-Thawrah adds: The front is a militant framework for the nationalist and progressive forces loyal to Lebanon and its unity. These forces also work to prevent Lebanon from being partitioned and alienated from its civilized role in the Arab world. From this premise, the front has stressed in its program that all aspects of its ties with Syria will be based on the fact that the relationship with Syria is the foundation of Lebanon's Arab affiliation. The front also stresses that this relationship will safeguard Lebanon's security and future, and will keep it united.

Al-Thawrah stresses that this important national move will add credibility to and further strengthen all levels of Lebanese national action. It will make national action have an impact on the developments in Lebanon. This impact will make the nationalist and progressives forces more effective in exposing martyr Karami's assassins and their supporters. It will also enable them to expose the assassins' motives. This will be an important step in the process of exposing Israel's agents and those who implement its designs. This will be done prior to isolating them and moving toward a serious national dialogue which will attain a Lebanese national accord. This accord will reestablish security and stability in Lebanon and will unite ranks against the Zionist enemy.

Al-Thawrah concludes: This is the real birth of the nationalist and progressive framework that will operate militantly. Through this operation, it will liberate the Lebanese territories which the Zionist enemy occupied. It will also preserve Lebanon's territorial integrity and Arab affiliation. Furthermore, it will protect Lebanon from the perils that endanger its existence.

Interior Minister Returns From USSR 26 Jul

JN261916 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and the delegation accompanying him returned to Damascus from Moscow this evening following a visit lasting several days. The visit came in response to an invitation extended to Ghabbash by the Soviet internal affairs minister. During the visit, issues of common interest were discussed.

'Extremist Groups' Missile Kills 3 in Konar Province

LD261701 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] The BIA reports that elements dependent on the extremist groups, firing surface-to-surface missiles at the agricultural land and houses in the Sarkani District and village of [name indistinct] attached to Asadabad City, Konar Province, martyred three of our defenseless compatriots, including one woman.

The report adds that, as a result of this criminal action by the treacherous extremist groups, another four persons, including one child and three (?women), were seriously injured.

Soviet Union Extends Private Sector Assistance

LD240626 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0430 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 23, *Bakhtar* — After the declaration of the policy of national reconciliation (January 15, 1987) the Soviet Union has extended a credit to an amount of fifty million rubles to assist the private sector, says a spokesman of the State Committee of Planning to a *Bakhtar* reporter. This amount, he continued to say, is being used for the purchase of tools and machinery needed for the feasibility studies of the projects, the provision of technical assistance for the construction of projects in the private sector, mixed and the state ones.

In addition under another protocol signed this year between the Soviet Union and the DRA, the Soviet Union will assist for the establishment of leather and shoe factories in Mazar-e Sharif City, factory of bicycle assembly, bakery factories in Kabul City and the construction of mills in Sheberghan City, he added.

Protocols of economic and technical cooperation between the Governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union were signed in the sphere of education, mass media and communications. On the basis of these agreements, the Soviet Union assists Afghanistan a gratis aid to an amount of thirty million rubles. These aids will be in the form of the delivery of equipments, materials and deputation of experts. The Soviet Union also helps the DRA in the exploitation of five animal clinics, five veterinary laboratories and campaign against locust.

Karachi: Mujahidin Kill 60 Soldiers in 2 Attacks

BK250616 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, mujahidin are reported to have killed 30 soldiers in an attack on a Soviet-Kabul vehicle last Monday [20 July]. They also attacked a Soviet-Kabul military post in Takhar Province, killing 30 more soldiers and destroying 2 tanks.

Karachi Reports Soviet-Kabul Napalm Bombing

BK251535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that Soviet-Kabul troops, after suffering heavy casualties at the hands of mujahidin, dropped napalm bombs in the Dand and Panjwai areas on 18 July, destroying houses and crops, and causing loss of life. You might recall that the Soviet-Kabul forces had launched a big offensive in the Arghandab and Dand areas near Qandahar City in which they had suffered heavy casualties and lost 13 fighter aircraft before pulling back.

Zail Singh Delivers Farewell Address 24 Jul

BK241600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1455 GMT 24 Jul 87

["Farewell address" to nation by outgoing President Zail Singh; date, place not given — recorded]

[Text] My dear countrymen: I am having the privilege of greeting and addressing you on the eve of my laying down the office of president tomorrow which I have occupied for the last 5 years. It has been a rare honor you and your elected representatives conferred on humble son of the soil like me. As the first citizen and servant of the nation, my foremost duty has been to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and the law and to devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of India. Though I have done my utmost to discharge these functions to the best of my ability, yet if I have ever been found wanting in any manner, I can pray only your indulgence. The love and affection showered on me by all of you, will sustain me up to the end of my days and will remain my most cherished treasure.

During my tenure I tried to meet as many of you as possible in your own states and home states. In view of the vastness of our land and various other factors, it has not been possible for me to to visit each and every town, though I really wish I could do so. I have always wished for your prosperity and welfare, especially of those who are still suffering from disabilities and disparities, and are struggling to attain a reasonable standard of living. I share my deep sympathy with those who are still victims of narrow prejudices and discriminations and are trying to achieve social status and self- respect.

As an ancient nation we have every reason to be proud of our rich cultural heritage. It is a land of prophets, rishis [ascetics], munis [hermits], gurus, saints, seers, and philosophers. There is, perhaps, no other country with such a diversity of languages, faiths, creeds, and customs. By forging bonds of unity we could attain great strength and become a mighty force.

In a democratic system, sovereignty rests with the people. They hand the mandate to the representatives elected by them. Individuals are important, but more important are the basic values and principles of democratic system. Since independence, our people have shown remarkable intelligence and maturity in exercising their democratic rights. I have abiding faith in their discerning power and their judgment. Our national leaders had a vision and a dream for the country. They wanted to build a strong, united, and prosperous India which enjoys the respect and dignity in the world. It is for us to realize that dream with honesty of purpose and integrity of character. We have to place the nation above groups and parties. We have to remember that there are no higher virtues than tolerance and respect for one another and no greater sins than communal discord and hatred. And also there is no substitute for honesty and hard work.

To make India great, we shall have to work with sincerity, courage, and confidence. We won freedom at the end of a long struggle. We got a chance to lead an independent national life. We set an example to many subjugated nations of Asia and Africa who, one after another, cast away colonial yoke and became members of the comity of free nations. As the biggest Third World country, the eyes of the world are upon us. We must continue our resolve to be citadel of peace, freedom, and democracy.

I would like to say a word of admiration for the high morale and efficiency of our defense services. They have always displayed a deep sense of devotion and dedication to defend the country against any external dangers and to keep our borders inviolable. I extend my best wishes to all officers and men for their welfare.

To conclude, I would like to thank all of you once again, my countrymen, for the honor you gave me and the consideration and affection with which you treated me. I do not have enough words to express my gratitude to you. My services as a humble citizen will always be available to the nation. I do hope that all of us will continue to work to strengthen the fabric of a democratic and secular India and take it to greater heights. Jai Hind. [Hail India]

New President Delivers Inaugural Address

BK251200 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 0648 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Address by India's eighth president, R. Venkataraman, in New Delhi on 25 July — live]

[Text Giani Zail Singh; Mr Prime Minister; Honorable Members of Parliament, Excellencies, and friends! Thirty-four years ago when as a member of parliament of India I was in this very hall for the swearing in of Dr Rajendra Prasad as the president of Republic of India, I did not imagine that the nation would one day confer the same honor on me. The presidentship of India was not one of the dreams of my adulthood. Those who participated in freedom struggle never dreamt that they would achieve freedom during their lifetime and hold the reins of government in their hands. To them patriotism was its own justification and was its own reward. I bow my head in reverence to the soldiers of freedom, known and unknown, whose sacrifices have enabled your fellow citizen to rise to this position today.

In the galaxy of the freedom fighters, my predecessor, Giani Zail Singh, is a shining star. The nation will always remember his contribution to freedom struggle and to the post-independence governance of this country. [applause] His heart is fully rooted in the soil and the people of India and I wish him a long and happy life of continued service to the nation even after retiring. [applause]

I am deeply conscious of the honor bestowed on me by the people of India. I however, look upon the presidentship of India not as an office of pomp and pageantry, but as a post of duty that calls for the highest standards of honesty, sincerity, and objectivity. As I enter this office today in all humility, I wish to assure the nation that I shall endeavor to deserve the trust and confidence reposed in me. In the discharge of my responsibilities, namely to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution, I shall strive to follow the illustrious traditions set up by the eminent presidents like Dr Rajendra Prasad, Dr Radhakrishnan, and Dr Zakir Hussain. I will never fail to exercise the duties and functions

attached to this high office, nor stray beyond the powers enshrined in the Constitution by the founding fathers.

Looking at the world around us, one finds that most of the newly independent countries which adopted a democratic form of government have lapsed into dictatorship. Today, India is a democratic oasis in a desert of dictatorships. It is the bounden duty of every citizen to ensure that this system of parliamentary democracy, which we have worked successfully for 4 decades, remains a permanent feature of our political system. [applause]

The nation is on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of our freedom. We can be justifiably proud of our achievements during these 4 decades. Thanks to the policy of planned development, a great transformation has occurred in our land. We are today a nation that counts, a nation that holds the attention of the rest of the world. But even as we register progress, formidable challenges — some old and some altogether new — confront us. Communal violence [words indistinct] the ground that we tread on. Religion and language are used as instruments of disruption. Anti-social elements try to destroy the fruits of freedom. We may recall the impassioned lines of the great Tamil poet Subramaniam Bharati: With tears not water this plant of freedom we reared; is it your pleasure now that it should be sheared? Further on he said: Is not sweet freedom the best of your fruits; will you not guard it against the heartless brutes? The great Hindi poet Maithlisharan Gupta has made an equally fervent invitation: May every heart with sympathy (?burned) and I to seek your and you my affection learned. [sentence as heard]

We must bear in mind that the spectre of violence and hatred is the diabolical handiwork of a few individuals. The vast masses of our people, the sincere hard-working and simple men and women of India, are totally and fundamentally opposed to violence. We all know that violence never solves problems. Peace is both natural and essential to us. We cannot afford to waste time, energy, or materials on internecine quarrels. I have no doubt that howsoever grim the prospect may sometime seem, the people of India will emerge truimphant from their ordeal. The nation needs at this hour consolidation and confidence, the consolidation of its dreams, gains, and the building of mutual confidence. Too many institutions and relationships have suffered an erosion of confidence. It cannot but have disastrous consequences. It will be my constant endeavor to play my due role in clearing mistrust, in strengthening the foundations of mutual understanding and confidence, and in building bridges of respect between people and institutions.

I appeal to all fellow citizens of this ancient land to march with firm unwavering steps toward the goal of peaceful and prosperous India. May I conclude with the lines which Mahatama Gandhi used to cite in his daily prayer: Sabko sammati de baghwan[May God create amity among all]. [applause]

Gandhi Takes Over External Affairs Ministry

BK251446 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Mr M.L. Fotedar is the new entrant into the Union Council of Ministers with the cabinet rank. There have also been changes in the portfolios of some ministers. The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr Fotedar at a brief ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House] this evening. He will be the minister of steel and mines.

The main portfolio of finance goes to Mr N.D. Tiwari, who will also hold the additional charge of commerce. The prime minister will look after the External Affairs Ministry for the time being. Mr P. Shiv Shanker has been given the charge of the Ministries of Planning and Program Implementation. He will also look after the Ministry of Law. Mr Brahm Dutt ceases to hold the additional charge of finance. He will remain the minister of state for petroleum with independent charge. Mr Jagdish Tytler gets the charge of Tourism Ministry besides civil aviation.

Later, in an informal chat with newsmen, Mr Gandhi indicated that a major cabinet reshuffle will be possible after the monsoon session of parliament [beginning 29 July].

Rules Out Mid-Term Elections

BK251403 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Mr M.L. Fotedar is the new entrant to the Union Council of Ministers with the cabinet rank. There have been also been changes in the portfolios of some ministers. [passage omitted]

Later in an informal chat with newsmen, Mr Gandhi indicated that there could be a major cabinet reshuffle after the monsoon session of parliament.

Replying to a question, Mr Gandhi turned down the opposition demand for a mid-term poll to the Lok Sabha. He also made it clear that there will not be any change in the leadership in the Congress-I-ruled states.

Answering another question about interference of governors in the political activity of another states, Mr Gandhi said it is not good and we will stop it. Replying to a specific question about the activities of the Rajasthan governor, Mr Vasantdada Patil, interfering in Maharashtra politics, the prime minister said we have spoken to him and hoped that Mr Patil would not do so in future.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is also the Congress-I president, announced that the party would be reorganized shortly. He said all those found guilty of weakening the party would be expelled. He, however, said there is no plan to take action against anybody at the moment.

Pakistan's Call for Nuclear Inspections Rejected

BK241603 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] India today rejected a suggestion by the Pakistan prime minister for mutual inspection of nuclear plants in the two countries. Commenting on Mr Junejo's statement in this regard, an official spokesman said in New Delhi that there is no question

of equating the nuclear programs of the two countries. While no one has said that the Indian nuclear program is weapon-oriented, there is no secret about Pakistan's intentions.

Sri Lanka Tamil Leader Arrives in Delhi 24 Jul

BK241608 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] The leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, Mr V. Prabhakaran, arrived in New Delhi this evening and is likely to meet the prime minister. Briefing newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said Mr Prabhakaran and five of his associates were brought from Jaffna to Madras via Trichunapolly in an Indian Air Force helicopter this afternoon. In Madras, Mr Prabhakaran had a meeting with the chief minister [of Tamil Nadu], Mr M.G. Ramachandran.

The spokesman described the visit as part of ongoing efforts to find an early peaceful political settlement of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. The Indian high commissioner in Colombo, Mr J.N. Dixit, is also in New Delhi and will call on the prime minister later this evening. He will apprise Mr Gandhi about his meeting with President Jayewardene.

The spokesman said India is keen on moving ahead expeditiously on solving the ethnic issue. India has been in touch with the Sri Lankan Government and the latest proposals that had merge definitely go beyond the 19 December proposals.

The official circles in the capital point out that discussions so far on solving the ethnic issue have been proceeding on the right lines and signs of a settlement are promising. The foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, has been in touch with various Tamil organizations like TULF [Tamil United Liberation Front] and EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students]. He had a meeting with Mr Amirthlingam [leader of the TULF] and briefed him about the proposals.

The attention of the spokesman was drawn to press reports that Mr Gandhi will be visiting Colombo to sign an agreement, the spokesman said that he would not like to comment on this at present.

Discussions With Tamils 'Useful'

BK271301 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, called on the prime minister in New Delhi today. They held an hour-long discussion on the latest proposal to find an early and peaceful settlement of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, which will meet the legitimate aspirations of the Tamils in the island.

Discussions also continued between the officials and various Tamil groups in New Delhi. The foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, discussed the proposals with Mr Amirthalingam and other TULF [Tamil United Liberation Front] leaders. He also had discussions with leaders of other Tamil organizations like EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], ENOLS [expansion unknown], PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam], TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization], and EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front].

Briefing newsmen the official spokesman told the discussions [as heard] with various Tamil groups as useful. Discussions with the LTTE are also continuing.

Bombing Kills Former Legislator, 4 Others in Gujarat

BK260314 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] In Gujarat, a former MLA [Member of Legislative Assembly], Mr Manzoon Hussain Pirzada, his son, and three others were killed in a bomb explosion in (Wakanir) town in Rajkot District last night. According to the state police, the explosion took place at Mr Pirzada's residence.

Khomeyni Addresses IRGC Commanders 27 Jul
LD271132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Excerpts] In Jamaran this morning, Imam Khomeyni met with commanders of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC]; a number of personnel from that force and the Corps Ministry; commanders of headquarters, divisions, and brigades of the Ground Forces and Guards Corps; regional and district commanders; Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the IRGC; Rafiqdust, the Guards Corps minister; and Mohammadi, the imam's deputy representative to the Guards Corps.

During this meeting, Mohsen Reza'i submitted a report to the commander in chief on the full military readiness of the Guards Corps to crush plots hatched by world arrogance in Persian Gulf waters. The imam of the ummah prayed for the victory of the forces of Islam. [passage omitted]

[Begin Khomeyni recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I will say some prayers for you. I am constantly saying prayers for us. I ask God Almighty to grant you success in your tasks, to promote Islam through you, your friends, and the Armed Forces, and to erase paganism. Of course, as you know, God is preparing the ground for the downfall of paganism. We are not capable of this by ourselves. It is God Almighty who has given you the strength and the will. Every bullet you fire is guided by God Almighty, as you have experienced so far. I consider it necessary to pray for all of you. I ask God Almighty to bring you success. I thank you, you who serve Islam. I ask you to preserve your unity and sincerity. Do not overestimate yourselves. God willing, God's strength with flow through you, provided all the forces are united. I hope that God will give you all good health and success. Peace and God's mercy be upon you. [Cheers] [end recording]

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Political Sermon 24 Jul
LD251656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1230 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Political sermon delivered by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani during Friday prayer ceremonies in Tehran on 24 July — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The most important issues for us and the most fundamental issue in the world today concerns the Persian Gulf. In my second sermon, I will focus primarily on this, as well as on the UN Security Council resolution. First, I would like to cover two small items, one of which concerns the Friday prayer ceremonies that were initiated by his eminence, the late Ayatollah Taleqani. Fortunately, His Excellency Tavassoli has already discussed this item extremely well, thus making it unnecessary for me to add much of anything. I mention only one thing, and I ask all our brothers and sisters to pay attention. Friday prayers are now one of the main supports of the revolution. From the very start, the huge crowds in mosques and prayer venues have been the best examples of our endurance. Even the war effort is being fed by these Friday prayers. The counterrevolution is being smashed by these same prayers; our enemies are being crushed by these prayers.

The popularity of this system can be seen in the size of the congregation gathered at Friday prayers. [shouts of "God is great"] We are grateful to our dear nation for maintaining the vitality of Friday prayers regardless of the circumstances, in rain and snow, in winter and under the scorching summer sun. [passage omitted further praising the people]

Your presence at Friday prayers silences the efforts being made by the enemy to suggest that the people's ties to the regime might have been weakened. This is quite separate from the other virtues associated with participating in Friday prayers. [passage omitted relating the history of Friday prayers since the beginning of Islam]

The second point concerns the presence of some of our dear brothers at Friday prayers. I shall mention them here, as I have been given a list of names. [passage omitted on list of attendees]

Our topic of the week is the Persian Gulf issue and the Security Council resolution. Praise be to God that due to oursteadfastness and faith, the Islamic Republic has achieved a major political and military victory. The enemies of Islam are plunged into a strange state of dejection and abjectness — something that we must capitalize on more extensively in the future. Today, I shall briefly describe the background and results of the situation that has led to this great political and military victory. I expect that what I am saying will reach the ears of those across the world who listen in to these things.

With regard to the Persian Gulf, we shall temporarily leave aside the background and discuss the present. Since the beginning of the war, this issue has had extraordinary importance. When the war started — indeed from the very first week — Iraq was in one way or another cut off from the Persian Gulf. When the Shatt al-Arab was blocked, Iraq's link to the Persian Gulf ports of Al-Basra, Al-Faw, and Abu al-Khasib were severed. The Shatt al-Arab was blocked and Iraq was cut off from the Gulf. The Al-Bakr and Al-Amaya jetties could not be used for oil export because they were under fire. In effect, they were shut down; but Iraq's Navy was present in the Persian Gulf. In economic terms, Iraq was cut off there.

The Iraqis tried to build a new waterway from Khawr 'Abdallah -- an extremely extensive waterway -- to a new port in Umm Qasr built as a substitute for Al-Basra, Al-Faw, and other places. However, we took Khawr 'Abdallah with the "Val-Fajr-8" offensive, with the result that both Umm Qasr and Khawr 'Abdallah were put out of action. Therefore, Iraq's economic ties with the Persian Gulf were completely severed. Of course, Iraq has tried a new route coming around Bubiyan Island through Kuwaiti waters, utilizing a waterway their small boats can negotiate in order to use Kuwaiti ports. They may even be able to reach as far as Al-Bakr and Al-Amayah. This gives them a limited military presence, not an economic presence.

As a result of that step, Iraq thought that as it had nothing more to lose in the Persian Gulf, it should deprive us of using it for exporting oil. This would never work completely because we have

ports all along the Persian Gulf, right up to Bandar-e 'Abbas. Our traffic could not be hampered, although Iraq thought that it could do something about our oil exports since most of our oil is exported via Khark Island, which is within easy range of Iraqi aircraft. In this context, France became Iraq's main supplier and America became Iraq's main source of intelligence. France supplied Iraq with great numbers of Exocet missiles, a rather expensive kind of hardware, and with planes to carry these missiles, such as the Mirage and Super Etendard. It even gave them helicopters for night use. Experts were also placed at Iraq's disposal.

For 2 to 3 years now, this has been the main preoccupation of the arrogant, reactionary, Iraqi Ba'th Party: to deprive us of exporting oil in the Persian Gulf. They think that if Iran fails to sell its oil, it cannot carry on the war and, if it can produce only a small amount of oil, it will only be enough to maintain essential economic life at home. Well, this is a potent, logical plan from an economic and military standpoint, and Iraq has been supplied with adequate means to carry off this plan. They truly believed that they would succeed. In response, we did two things: We protected and defended our centers — something we have done well. We were able to arm Khark Island so well that even if Iraq attacks this island 50, 70 or 100 times a day, it cannot cut off our oil. Moreover, we have built other oil export centers all along the Gulf in the event that, God forbid, we could not export our oil from Khark. Furthermore, we have built pipelines outside the Persian Gulf that we can use quickly, God willing, should the need arise. In this way we made ourselves invulnerable. One of Iraq's plans even now is to bomb oil wells and oil centers in the Gulf. They have heavily raided Khark more than 200 times. However, it still stands, solid as a rock.

Iraq's second plan, which it considered easier, was to attack tankers en route to Khark or to other ports in the northern part of the Persian Gulf to load oil. It is easy to hit a ship with a missile. When you fire a missile from 30 or 40 km away, day or night, it is easy to hit a ship, especially if you have access to intelligence information. U.S. AWACS monitor our ships through the Strait of Hormuz and pass on their coordinates. These coordinates can be fed into a computer which in turn can fire the missile.

In response, we thought about a fundamental solution. We argued that Iraq has no ships in the Persian Gulf, nor any oil wells. Others are using the Persian Gulf on Iraq's behalf, primarily Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia recently claimed that it is not doing so. (?We will leave to one side) for now whether or not it is. However, the case of Kuwait is very clear: Kuwait is selling the neutral zone oil on Iraq's behalf. For 7 years now 300,000 to 350,000 barrels [per day] of oil has been sold and the money paid to Iraq. OPEC regulations are also being flouted, for these sales are not accounted for under OPEC quota arrangements. This in itself ruins the oil market. This is an evil plan, and Saudi Arabia is involved. Their ports are at Iraq's disposal. Iraq has no port facilities, but ships unload in Kuwait. No one knows that the cargo belongs to Iraq. Trucks come at night and take it to Iraq. In addition, Kuwaiti shores, Bubiyan Island, and other places are used by Iraqi aircraft, which are on missions of destruction. As these aircraft cannot use our territory, they use Kuwaiti territory. We raise a logical point here; namely, that those gentlemen residing on the southern part of the Persian Gulf should openly declare that they are not helping Iraq and condemn Iraq for attacking ships. They should voice their opposition to these maritime attacks.

Well, we have a right to do this. Part of the rules of war, portions of signed international conventions, state that if a country becomes a partner to a party engaged in war and helps that party, then the other party in the war is entitled to object. Only 2 days ago the Kuwaiti crown prince stated categorically that Iraq is an Arab country and any attack on Iraq is tantamount to an attack on Kuwait. Therefore, Arabs must support Iraq. This was stated right in the middle of the present crisis. They deny nothing. Even if they did deny these things, it would be pointless because we can see their aircraft; we can see the convoys that use that place; we can see the neutral zone oil. Some of the ships hit were carrying neutral oil. The oil belonged to Iraq, not to Kuwait. The oil is being sold on Iraq's behalf.

Therefore, we said that as Iraq has nothing that we can hit, we will hit Iraq's partners; we will retaliate against Iraq's partners. We publicly stated a very clear plan. The papers already know it by heart; they all know. We said: Either all of us will use the Persian Gulf, or no one will. Iraq's partners in the war want to use the Gulf but deprive us of using it, despite the fact that the greater part of the coast belongs to us. Obviously, this is unfair. Our plan is that if they hit our ships, we will hit theirs.

I have just been handed an astounding report. It seems that God insists on supporting the Islamic Republic. [shouts of "God is great" and other slogans] It says: According to agency reports, a Kuwaiti tanker escorted by Iraq [apparently corrects himself] — by America — at approximately 0730 today apparently hit a mine some 120 miles south of Kuwait. A U.S. officer says that they will continue on course; the convoy is proceeding at a reduced speed. Well, in truth these are God's angels that descend and do what is necessary at the appropriate time. This is a miracle. We can only say that it is a miracle. We have said that our plan is clear. We have stated: If our ships are hit, the ships of Iraq's partners will be hit. Of course, we will not claim responsibility for anything, for it is an invisible shot that is being fired.

Moreover, we are told that there are also many people who support us in the world. If they make it impossible for us to use the Persian Gulf, we will close the Strait. As long as we are able to use the Strait, we will keep it open. This is what we are saying, and the whole world knows it. The whole world knows that our interests in the Persian Gulf are greater than any other country in the region -- more than any one else we want the Persian Gulf to be secure. We have expended far more efforts on Persian Gulf security than others. Our Navy's chief task now, as it was at the start of the war, is to ensure Persian Gulf security. Therefore, we favor Persian Gulf security. Those things that are said about us — that we want a crisis, or that we are planning to do this or that with the world's oil — are simply lies. They know that they are lies and they have admitted they are lies.

For nearly 3 years, they worked hard and cooperated with Iraq, and yet Iraq failed to cut off our oil. Moreover, they see that we are advancing step by step on land and are getting closer to sensitive Iraqi centers, albeit a few kilometers a year, until

eventually they will see the fall of Saddam. Therefore, they are panic-stricken following the "Karbala'-5" offensive. They have now come up with a new plan, one we see today. In the course of the past two or three sermons, I have discussed all this before. Therefore, I will cover this issue quickly in order to reach the main point. The slogan they are raising is the protection of Persian Gulf security. This is a lie. We have offered a solution. We have said: If you are really interested in Persian Gulf security, then there is no need for you to come over here. Iraq is like putty in your hands. That has been proved, and I will explain this in a minute. The Soviets, the Americans, the British, and the French should tell Iraq not to cause trouble, not to attack ships, not to attack oil wells in the Persian Gulf, not to pollute the sea, not to do any of these things. We will take responsibility for Persian Gulf security. All ships can use the Persian Gulf. There will be no need for control in a situation like this. Ships can come and go.

Otherwise, you could say that Iraq is at war. Iraq cannot say that we have war in one place and peace in another. Iraq is entitled to be anywhere; it is entitled to call a cease-fire everywhere or to engage in war everywhere. Well, this is what Iraq might say. What does Kuwait say? What does Saudi Arabia say? They are partners in the war. They should come and say: We have nothing to do with it. If Iraq causes trouble in the Persian Gulf, then we will not help Iraq. Well, they can do that. Saudi Arabia is America's servant, after all, and Kuwait is the servant of America's servant. They can be dictated to. Well, tell them not to help Iraq.

So you can see the logic is crystal clear. This is acceptable to the world. Many respected international newspapers which are not even friendly toward us say the same thing. They acknowledge that this is a reasonable thing to say. They have asked Carter; they have asked the White House; they have asked Reagan; they have asked everyone. They say their logic is right. It is Iraq that is causing trouble. Why do you not leave Iran alone? This is our logic.

However, the United States raised a clamor, saying: No, we want to come to the Persian Gulf and establish security there, the very security that the White House could have easily effected. This was not done.

As for their plan to come to the Persian Gulf, they used a stratagem — one that was exposed by the remarks made by the U.S. defense secretary yesterday when that stupid American soldier spilled the beans. He said: We reached an agreement with Kuwait 3 months ago to reflag its ships. This is very interesting. Actually, it was the Soviets who first came forward, and the United States came in because of the Soviets. This is going back 1 and 1/2 or 2 months. This Mr Weinberger did not realize that if an agreement was reached with Kuwait 3 months ago, then this was before the Russians chartered their ships to Kuwait. Now the matter becomes clear: The Americans conspired with the Kuwaitis, reached agreement on reflagging ships, and told the Kuwaitis to invite the Russians to lease their ships. The Russians, who have always dreamed of establishing a foothold in the Persian Gulf, would be only too eager to come in as soon as possible. They brought in three decrepit ships, two of which have already gone out of service; one is still operating. The Russians were conned into this. When the Russians came, the Americans exploited the situation for propaganda purposes. As you know, as far as U.S., European, and Western opinion is concerned, the main issue is the rivalry between the United States and Russia. Anything smacking of communism arouses extreme enmity among Americans.

So they needed that strategem. If the Russians are able to provide leased ships in the Persian Gulf, why not the United States? The Russians provided 3 ships, the Americans 11, nearly four times as many. The Russians soon realized that they had fallen into a trap and wisely turned back and adopted a new policy. They declared that actually there is no need for foreign ships in the Persian Gulf. Persian Gulf security does not lie with either Iran or Iraq halting attacks on ships.

That is perfectly true, and it is what we are saying. In this regard, we are grateful to the Russians because a couple of days after their mistake -- which provided a pretext for the Americans -- they clearly amended their position. Today they are among those who oppose the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf — in propaganda terms, at least. Therefore, they corrected their position. However, the Americans went ahead, backed by France and Britain. They made a secret plan. Arab reaction is also with them. This was planned.

America needs this; that is, the Republican Party needs this. Because of ill-conceived actions by the White House and the stupidity of America's rulers, the Republican Party's position has deteriorated. It has been disgraced inside the United States. Only yesterday a major U.S. newspaper or magazine said that the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that Mr Reagan has developed memory lapses and has been physically and mentally weakened to such a degree that he cannot remember anything. For example, it says that Mr Reagan still refers to the *USS Stark* as an aircraft called the Stark. Or, trying to recall well-known U.S. statesmen like Clarke, or Clifford, he says Kayford, and after a great deal of thinking at that. The paper also cites two or three other examples to show that he has completely lost his concentration. The CIA almost disintegrated; its director committed suicide. The White House National Security Council, the most important center of the country's administration, disintegrated; all its elements fled or resigned. They were put on trial. They abrogated all the principles they had upheld and resorted to extortion and theft of the peoples of the world — principles about not giving in to terrorism, about telling the Arabs they were their main supporters, about asking European countries not to sell arms to Iran -- Iran must not be supplied with arms. The United States has indeed lost its prestige in the world. It needs some kind of adventurism to salvage its reputation as the neighborhood thug. It believes that this is an opportune time.

The Persian Gulf is the focal point of the entire world, where the world economy's pulse keeps beating; where a 1-week closure would cause oil prices to spiral; and where if someone coughs, others run a high temperature. Such analogies provide an appropriate place for them to become involved. Were it not for the mistake made by the Soviet Union, the United States would have had no excuse. This mistake of the Soviet Union made it possible for the United States to claim that this situation involves national interest and the interests of the free world against the Marxist

world. Taking advantage of this weapon, the United States was able to silence her opponents. [passage omitted noting the debate in the U.S. Senate and the strong opposition faced by the administration there over the Gulf]

The United States needs to demonstrate its bullying. However, this bullying was not done correctly. As I see it — and perhaps as a majority of military and political analysts will eventually see it — this was a show of weakness. The United States truly displayed its weakness. Let us see how it is going to achieve its objective. What is the objective? It is to send U.S. warships and forces to deter Iran from retaliating. Well, what else could they have in mind?

The Iraqis could have attacked one or two ships at most per week, with the same number of ships being attacked in retaliation. All in all, five or six ships per month. [passage omitted citing the incident of the U.S. frigate *Stark*]

The U.S. presence, at the invitation of Kuwait; the support of France and Britain; and all the commotion and involvement of theSecurity Council were aimed at bringing a U.S. presence to the region to deter us from retaliating.

Now, let us see whether this could be achieved. What has happened after all the uproar? Assume that the ships reach their destination, which they actually did not. If they arrive in port and manage to take on oil and depart, this involves only two tankers, one over 400,000 tons carrying gas, and the other about 40,000 tons carrying oil. Considering where the actual escorting is taking place, outside (Khur Makan) from Fujairah, 100 miles outside the Straits of Hormuz, it will take at least 10 days for the trip. Three to 4 days on the way in and 3 to 4 days on the way out, in addition to a couple of days for loading. Therefore, over a period of 10 days, several warships, dozens of warplanes, supported by 10 warships and aircraft carriers, supplies picked up en route, helicopters providing air cover, and AWACS — all these are involved just to enable two ships to carry oil.

Well then, what about the next time? According to their statements, they can manage such operations twice a month, two or three times a month. All this means is that each month four or five ships can sail through the Gulf under escort.

Now, assume Iran does not intend to confront the United States — an obviously wrong assumption, for if we become involved, it makes no difference whether it is with the United States, Britain, France, Kuwait, or Iraq — any Iraqi partner, once we have the right to retaliate, would be hit, no matter who it is. [shouts of approval and "God is great" and "Death to America"]

Well then, what is going to happen? Even if we assume that the Islamic Republic does not intend to confront America — something that can be ruled out — the question arises: If they will provide escort for four ships, what about the rest? Each day several ships berth in Kuwait and then set sail; these are cargo ships carrying goods, oil, and other commodities. Therefore, several vessels visit Kuwait every day. How extensive a retaliation do we need? Two per week, eight per month, five? There are always ships there. Consequently, nothing can stop us from retaliating. Then why is the United States bothering to undertake such an expensive operation?

Ask our own economists, school children, and mathematicians to compute the operation: 1 tanker, carrying 400,000 tonnes of oil, escorted by 20 planes, 15 warships, and 50 helicopters for 10 days. How much expense does this operation involve? Is this viable economically? [Words indistinct] and Americans claim this is a commercial venture. Is this proper commerce? One liter of this oil is going to cost them considerably and involve exorbitant expense for both sides. Can they truly export oil this way, even assuming nothing happens on the way in or out? Obviously, this is not a commercial enterprise; it is nothing but an uproar. It is clear that there will be no security. Out of the 100 vessels attempting to berth there each month, only 5 can be escorted, leaving 95 vessls unprotected. This is no way to run a commercial venture. This is simply a display, not a show of power but of weakness. What kind of power is this when, 10 days ago, the White House, the House of Representatives, the Senate, and your press and the world press were turned into a wasp's nest, all cursing and condemning Reagan. This is not a show of power. I will tell you what power is: It is what our fighters do — board their boats, speed toward your ship, and sink it. [shouts of approval and "Death to America"]

With regard to the question of security: It is not up to these ships to guarantee security. The security guarantee was made possible when you, the master, ordered Iraq, the slave, to toe the line. We have reliable information that you summoned the Iraqi envoy and told him that if any mischevious acts take place when your ships are present, that if Iraq provokes Iran, then the Turkish route might be closed; that the same procedure may be applied to the 'Aqabah port and to Kuwaiti ports; that the intelligence gathered by AWACS and satellites might be witheld; and, eventually, that no more money would be forthcoming from Arabs to Iraq. Well, you could have said this without bothering to resort to such adventurism and displays. You could, like the Russians, have taken a rational approach and made these points clearly. What kind of power and security is this?

However, the British foreign minister unwittingly divulged certain information. He made the mistake of saying that Britain had told the Iraqis not to attack ships in the coming days, when the U.S. was going to be in the region. However, some people later asked the Iraqi Foreign Minister or Iraq's envoy to Washington or the UN if anyone had instructed Iraq to refrain from attacking ships. He said: No. No one had instructed us to that effect. Well, obviously not. Why is it then that, until a couple of days ago, you kept attacking ships, whereas now you have halted your attacks? Why is it that you have suddenly turned into proper human beings in the past 5 or 6 days? Well, we dare you to attack. You will see how useful the flag is. We reiterate what we have said from the very beginning, and will say in the future as well: We will not initiate any insecurity. We need security in the Persian Gulf. We will support this security. We will resort to retaliation within a just framework, whoever the opponent may be. This is a judicial matter. The angel of justice shuts her eyes; she does not look at flags; she only hears the sound of the ship firing. If you do not wish to have an incident, then, like proper human beings, tell Iraq to behave itself, to refrain from creating trouble in the Persian Gulf. Security will then be preserved.

Now, as for the detrimental aspects of your action. This display of weakness, this apprehension you feel that resulted in your panicking and firing a missile when one of your own helicopters approached your ships -- apart from these incidents, you also sustained two major setbacks. Because of the insolence of Kuwait and the United States, we have made a new decision. This is our new retaliatory policy, something we have never done before. When you attacked our oil wells and centers or installations at sea, we did not retaliate. You attacked Khark, Nowruz, and Bostan; we did not retaliate. However, this time the Islamic Republic's war policy is that if you attack our centers and installations, we will attack the installations of Iraq's partners. [shouts of approval and "Death to America" and "Death to the Soviet Union"]

This is the gift which the United States has presented to the Persian Gulf's southern littoral states. This is the punishment dealt in return for the insolence of a superpower that dares to claim neutrality in this war and continues to support the aggressor so blatantly. They expect our hands to be tied, while our enemy has a free hand. [passage omitted reiterating U.S. support for Saddam Husayn]

Considering our future position, it was quite possible for us to pave the way for the normalization of relations. However, now that you have shown your fangs and claws, the matter cannot end here. You made a mistake in the past at your embassy by resorting to espionage -- you saw how our relations deteriorated. Our nation is not leaving you alone yet. God forbid, if one drop of blood is shed, if one bullet is exchanged between us and the United States in the Persian Gulf, then our nation will not allow a single American to come to the region for the next several decades. [shouts of approval and "God is great" and "Death to America, Israel, and the Soviet Union"]

As for France and Britain, they too were caught in this calamity by the United States. These two countries are in the doghouse and deeply regret having embarked on this psychological war of the embassies. They keep sending messages to us, asking us to normalize relations, but we shall continue along our chosen way. We did not want to make our relations critical; they started it, this psychological war. Against whom, what nation, what people? These people are not afraid of anything. [passage omitted citing the bombings and missile attacks on Dezful and its heroism]

The Islamic Republic has been saying the same thing it has always declared and will believe to the end: Without the trial and punishment of the aggressor, this war will not end.

Either you put the aggressor on trial to end the war, or we, with our own troops, will cross over and silence the aggressor, and then set up an open court martial for the aggressor. [shouts of approval]

Commander Hopes Mining Brings 'U.S. to Its Senses'

LD251845 Tehran IRNA in English 1827 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Sari, Mazandaran Prov., July 25, IRNA — The U.S. Navy's escort of Kuwaiti tankers suffered a serious setback, when the Kuwaiti supertanker (*Bridgeton*) struck a mine in the Persian Gulf, said naval commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Hoseyn Alai'e here Saturday. Perhaps the incident would bring the U.S. to its senses and make it take the same stance on the Persian Gulf as the Soviet Union.

Alai'e described Washington's controversial escort of Kuwaiti tankers as a plot hatched by the U.S. to gain a military foothold and control over the region after Saddam Husayn's imminent downfall.

To realise the sinister design Reagan launched extensive propaganda campaign under the lame pretext of protecting Kuwaiti ships without considering that his plan might lead to a scandal so soon, said the IRGC Navy commander.

Warning that the continuation of U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf would internationalize the Iraqi imposed war Alai'e said, "We are fully prepared to suppress any enemy act of mischief."

Alai'e expressed hope that the forthcoming sea wargames codenamed "Shahadat" (martyrdom) to be conducted by IRGC Naval units and volunteers in early August, would serve notice on the global arrogance particularly the U.S. to revise its decision to be present in the region and internationalize the Iraqi-imposed war.

Mining Incident Turns U.S. Strategy 'Upside Down'

LD252301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The news of the Kuwaiti ship hitting a mine is still making the headlines around the world. According to a report by the Central News Unit, the collision of the Kuwaiti ship with a mine has created mental and physical confusion among U.S. officials. This comes at a time when the White House has announced that the United States cannot identify those responsible for placing the mine.

Informed sources believe the events on Friday in the Persian Gulf will probably deal a very severe blow to the U.S. military "dam" in the Persian Gulf, about which there has been a great deal of propaganda.

According to the White House statement, Western news sources do not know the reason for the collision of the tanker and mine 3 days after the ship sailed under the U.S. flag escorted by three U.S. warships.

While stating that the mine explosion was the worst incident for the United States, some analysts believe that the lack of reaction by the White House and Pentagon is a clear retreat. [passage omitted on news agency analysis of U.S. reaction]

The damage suffered by the first Kuwaiti tanker, which was escorted by three of the most advanced U.S. warships, has turned the precise calculations of U.S. military and political analysts to successfully carry out Reagan's plan upside down and has created new severe reactions among the Senate and House of

Respresentatives. [passage omitted citing *Reuter* report on Senate reaction]

DIE WELT Interviews Velayati on Foreign Policy

DW261025 Bonn DIE WELT in German 25 Jul 87 p 6

[Interview with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by Detlev Ahlers in Bonn; date not given]

[Text] [*Die Welt*] Mr Minister, in February several hundred students rallied in front of the German Embassy in Tehran shouting: "Death to the Germans." In Bonn just now you called the Germans "friends." Is that a change in Iran's policy?

[Velayati] Everyone in Iran is free to express his opinion. What I said was my government's opinion.

[*Die Welt*] If you say that Iran will henceforth only react in the Gulf if attacked by Iraq, does that not mean that you accept in part the UN Security Council's call for a cease-fire on the land, at sea, and in the air?

[Velayati] You may interpret that as you like. That was the way we acted before the resolution was adopted. What we are doing in the Persian Gulf is a response to Iraq's actions there.

[*Die Welt*] Considering the statements made by the Iranian leadership in past years, we felt that you wanted the entire leadership of the Ba'th Party in Baghdad removed. Lately, we understand that the removal of President Husayn from office might make peace possible.

[Velayati] What we once said is still true today.

[*Die Welt*] You said that the UN Security Council would have to name Iraq as the aggressor. Is that the only precondition for Iran to negotiate with the Security Council on a peaceful solution to the war?

[Velayati] That is the precondition for us to cooperate actively with the Security Council.

[*Die Welt*] Parliament President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has said that Iran wants to normalize its relations with the United States if the United States acts "reasonably." In your view, what should the United States do to act reasonably?

[Velayati] We mean that the United States must end its hostility toward us.

[*Die Welt*] Your visit to the Federal Republic was planned long ago and preparations for it were made bilaterally. Are you visiting the Federal Republic because Bonn is giving you a rare opportunity to inform the Western world about Iran's positions?

[Velayati] The purpose of this visit is to discuss bilateral problems and issues. What you just said could also be the result of this visit. However, the object of this visit is definitely to discuss bilateral relations. Of course, this is open to interpretation.

[*Die Welt*] One of the guidelines of the Islamic revolution is "Neither East nor West."

[Velayati] For us to say that does not mean that we reject relations with the West and East, nor do we reject the positive elements that exist in those two regions. It means that we cannot accept domination by the East or the West. We want to be independent.

[*Die Welt*] So, is this a principle of foreign policy rather than a cultural delimitation?

[Velayati] Basically, it is. Of course, independence is indivisible. That holds true for culture and policy, industry and the economy.

[*Die Welt*] Is it correct that Mr Gorji, who is at present in the Iranian Embassy in Paris, is not an accredited diplomat?

[Velayati] The passport Mr Gorgi has allows him to enjoy the immunities provided by the Vienna Convention. We are quite ready publicly to discuss with the French the fact that such immunity exists. You may announce through your paper that I am in Europe and ready to discuss the matter. Anyone from France can come and discuss it with me in public. Then we will see who violates the Convention. Then you will see that the French wanted to blackmail us. As if the French had forgotten that there was a revolution in Iran!

The system we have in Iran now is a powerful system and cannot be compared with the shah's regime. We do not allow ourselves to be suppressed -- neither by the United States, nor by the Soviet Union, nor by France. We are ready to deal with all countries on the basis of mutual respect and equal rights.

[*Die Welt*] Your relations with France are currently not the best. Can an improvement in your relations with Great Britian -- which are also damaged -- be expected?

[Velayati] That also depends on the British attitude toward us. We are dealing with every country the way it deals with us. The German attitude toward us is as positive as our attitude toward the Germans.

Musavi Meets USSR Envoy, Receives Ryzhkov Message

LD261653 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 26, IRNA — Soviet Ambassador to Tehran Vil Boldyrev met Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and presented him a written message from his Soviet counterpart Nikolay Ryzhkov, here Sunday.

The message pointing to the two countries' keenness on promoting bilateral relations stressed on long-term economic cooperation especially in the oil and gas sector, in view of the ample facilities and experience Iran and the Soviet Union have.

The prime minister thanked for the message and mentioned the existing grounds for expansion of mutual cooperation. He expressed hope the cooperation would prove fruitful to the two nations' interests. Also emphasised at the meeting were meetings

between Iran and Soviet expert teams.

Musavi Tours Flood-Stricken Tehran Areas

LD261745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, following torrential rainfalls that occurred at noon today over the northern and southern parts of the city of Tehran, a relatively severe flood occurred in the following areas: Tajrish bridge and Dr Shari'ati, Zargandeh, Elahiye, and Shahid Dastgerdi and Valiahad Avenues. Loss of life and property resulted. This afternoon, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi flew over the flood-striken areas north and south of the city and watched relief work being carried out by various organizations and government offices and witnessed the cooperation and assistance given by people to these areas.

At the end of this inspection tour, the prime minister called on all government offices and institutions of the Islamic Republic to be prepared to help their flood-stricken compatriots. The prime minister remarked: Until further notice, helping flood-striken compatriots will take precedence over all else. The headquarters for filling the needs of flood victims, based in the Prime Ministry, will follow up relief operations.

Former UK Envoy Warns Reagan on Restraint in Gulf

LD250648 Tehran IRNA in English 0644 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] London, July 25, IRNA — The world stakes are much too great for the Reagan administration to strike against Iran for its past embarrassments, a former British ambassador to Tehran and adviser to Prime Minister Thatcher says.

Commenting before the latest catastophe of the *Bridgeton* to befallen America over its policy in the Middle East Friday, Sir Anthony Parsons appeals to the U.S. President to exercise "maximum prudence" in the Persian Gulf adventurism.

In his article for the London *Times* of London newspaper, the former envoy is the latest in a string of international figures expressing dismay about what the President may be up to in the Persian Gulf.

In his appeal, he points out that it is Iraq's strategy to "internationalize the conflict" to maximize pressure on Iran in contrast to Tehran's opposite policy in wanting to "localize the war" and get on with "grinding down Iraqi resistance."

"It was against this background that Iraq, with nothing to lose, initiated attacks on shipping in the Gulf in 1983," Parson says, while Iran's retaliation has been aimed at "Iraq's Arab paymasters" with the object to "include them to restrain Baghdad."

Fearing that the most immediate danger is an exchange of blows between the U.S. and Iran, he argues that "the logic of Iranian strategy dictates that Iran would not initiate such an exchange, provided that Iraqi attacks are not renewed."

But in the given overheated atmosphere of the Persian Gulf, Parsons, who has also been the U.K's ambassador to the United Nations, warns that logic is "not a perfect guide."

Turkish Envoy Delivers Ozal Message to Mo'ayeri

LD261250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Turkish ambassador in Tehran met with Political Deputy Prime Minister Mo'ayeri this morning and delivered a verbal message on regional developments from the Turkish prime minister to Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

During the meeting, the Turkish ambassador referred to agreements reached between the two countries during Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi's recent visit to Turkey and requested that dialogue continue between officials on regional issues and developments. He added: Dialogue between the regional countries will help to curtail interference by the superpowers. Furthermore, the Turkish ambassador refuted a British newspaper report on the arrival of more U.S. forces in Turkey for a probable U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf region, saying: Some circles are trying to disrupt relations between Iran and Turkey.

At the meeting, Mo'ayeri thanked him for the verbal message from Turkish Prime Minister Ozal. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran, the country with the longest coastline in the Persian Gulf, desires that peace and security be safeguarded there. In our view the real factor behind the crisis is that the Iraqi regime has repeatedly attacked shipping in the region and has rendered it insecure. He said: The recent UN Security Council resolution was issued in the same spirit as that of the U.S. intrusion into the Persian Gulf. This has marred the image of the Security Council more than ever.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the political deputy prime minister said that he deems the continuation and expansion of political and economic cooperation by the two sides as beneficial to the regional countries and stressed the need for deepening bilateral relations.

Combat Operation in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,907

LD241651 Tehran IRNA in English 1639 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA — Iranian naval forces in addition to carrying our special missions in the Persian Gulf, intercepted and searched four foreign cargo ships and tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Thursday but allowed them to sail on once their destination were found out, Joint Staff Communique No. 2907 reported here today.

The communique said Iranian forces consolidated their positions in Sumar region, western fronts and despatched patrol units to sensitive areas Thursday setting afire several Iraqi gun

emplacements, watch posts, three munitions dumps and four military vehicles, inflicting some casualties on enemy troops.

In exchange of artillery and tank fire, which was heavier in Zayd region and Majnun Islands, Muslim forces damaged at least five Iraqi tanks in areas overlooking Sardasht, Helaleh and Bejliyeh theaters.

Iraqi motorized and armoured columns suffered some casualties and losses when they came under Iranian artillery fire in operational regions opposite Mehran, Helaleh, Maymak, Chazabeh and Nahr 'Anbar, the communique said.

Over 15 Iraqi gun emplacements and a military vehicle were set ablaze and at least five enemy soldiers were killed when enemy positions in parts of the western and southern fronts were subjected to artillery fire of Iranian gendarmerie forces Thursday.

Iraqi warplanes bombed the city of Marivan, and its nearby villages in Kurdestan Province, Thursday martyring four civilians in a village.

Iraqi Plane, Helicopter Downed

LD251057 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] According to our correspondents, at 0530 this morning [0200 GMT], one enemy Mirage and one helicopter were shot down by the ground forces' antiaircraft defense in Maymak. No information is yet available about the fate of the crew.

Iraqi Attack 'Repelled' in Sumar

LD251117 Tehran IRNA in English 1112 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 25, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran repelled an Iraqi attack in Sumar operational region, western fronts, Friday night to penetrate Heights 420, and 413. During the over-night attack over 100 Iraqi troops were killed and scores of others injured.

Further on Sumar Clashes

LD251159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Enemy movement in the western part of the country was halted by the intrepid ground forces of the Islamic Republic. In a press conference this morning, a senior Army commander told correspondents: The Zionist enemy last night opened heavy fire in the general area of Sumar, trying to occupy Heights 402 and [name indistinct]. However, the attempt by the enemy was foiled by the Islamic Republic's ground forces, with the Iraqi troops suffering heavy casualties and losses.

He added: In the course of the operation, Iraqi's 505th Brigade, part of the 16th Division, suffered losses and casualties between 60 and 80 percent; the 30th Armored Brigade of the 6th Division 40 to 60 percent; and three commando battalions belonging to the 418th Brigade and the commando brigade of the Second Corps, part of 21st Division, suffered between 80 and 100 casualties and losses.

Fighting has continued this morning along the region's heights, with the Islamic forces having total superiority. More enemy troops are reported to have been killed.

In the general Sumar area, several enemy personnel were taken prisoner by our forces. So far seven of them, including three officers, have been transferred behind the lines. According to the POWs, more than 40 officers of various enemy units, including (Ahmad Karim), (Husayn Musa Kamil Shakhlaqi), (Kahar Salim), (Sa'id Ma'arif), and (Adlan Ahmad), are among the casualties.

The officer then told the correspondents: The fighting still continues this morning, partly on a hand to hand basis and by self-sacrifices of the Islamic Ground Forces, along the northern heights and [words indistinct]. The enemy was forced to withdraw after more than 1,000 were killed or wounded, In this area, the 36th and 4th Brigades of the Second Division and the 108th Brigade of the 11th Division suffered casualties and losses of 60 to 80 percent. Two commando battalions were also smashed by 40 percent. Moreover, a number of enemy troops were captured. So far nine of them, including some officers, have been taken behind the lines.

Communique No 2,908

LD251755 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 25, IRNA — At least 1,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in Maymak operational theater, western fronts, when Muslim forces of Iran smashed an enemy offensive backed by heavy artillery fire. Two enemy warplanes and one helicopter were also shot down in the war theater at 02:00 and 05:00 GMT today.

Announcing the above here Saturday, the 2908th Joint Staff communique said that Iraqi Brigade 108 of Division 16, Brigade 4 of Division 2, Brigade 36, some commando battalions of Iraq's special corps and a battalion of Brigade 70 of Division 18 were destroyed 40 to 100 percent.

A large number of Iraqi soldiers were also killed or wounded in hand-to-hand fighting with Iranian Muslim combatants in the western theater of Sumar Friday night and early Saturday. According to captured Iraqi POWs, forty Iraqi officers were seen among the killed.

Iraqi Battalion 2 of Brigade 418, Commando Battalion 2 of the 2nd Corps, a commando battalion of Division 21, Brigade 505 of Division 16, Armoured Brigade 30 of Division 6 were destroyed 40 to 100 percent in Sumar over the above-mentioned period. Several Iraqi soldiers were captured in Maymak and Sumar operational theaters, 16 of whom have been moved to safe places behind the fronts.

Elsewhere in the western fronts yesterday, 40 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and parts of enemy positions, three munitions dumps, two tanks and one anti-aircraft gun were destroyed in

artillery duels with Iranian Muslim forces.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire killed or wounded 15 Iraqi soldiers and destroyed a considerable number of enemy gun emplacements, 10 observation posts and several tanks and vehicles in the northwestern and southern fronts Friday.

Iranian gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the battlefields yesterday, setting afire 10 gun emplacements and several vehicles of enemy troops, the communique concluded.

1,000 Iraqis Killed Near Sumar

LD261026 Tehran IRNA in English 1011 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Sumar Operational Region, July 26, IRNA — Muslim combatants in a five-hour hand-to-hand battle against Iraqi Ba'thist forces near Height 402 and Savanta overlooking Sumar and Naft-e Shah killed 1,000 Iraqi soldiers and destroyed three tank battalions, 150 vehicles as well as 20 ammunition depots.

The enemy's attack was launched by three Iraqi brigades from Division 16 and a fresh commando brigade from Khanaqin and supported by copter gunships as well as warplanes. Bodies of the Ba'thist forces among them three colonels and several officers were seen scattered around the enemy concentration centers and in canals near the heights. The enemy warplanes dropped mostly napalm and cluster bombs on Sumar operational region in five sorties. Since last Sunday Iraqi troops have repeatedly tried unsuccessfully to capture the heights.

An Iranian commander said Iranian forces launched five counterattacks against the enemy troops and foiled their offensive. He said that the Iraqi warplanes had mistakenly bombarded their own positions twice Saturday.

Meanwhile a group of Iraqi POWs told IRNA that bodies of 220 Ba'thists killed in the unsuccessful offensives were buried at an Iraqi military cemetery in Sumar region.

Iraqi POW, conscript Amir Karim Al-'Afiz of Second Battalion of Division 16 said that Colonel 'Abd al-Sattar and three soldiers from the Second battalion had escaped and the rest of the battalion's personnel had been either killed or captured.

First Lieutenant Hoshiar Taha 'Uthman of Second Battalion of Brigade 417, taken captive on Friday, said that the commander of his battalion who had failed to support the attacking battalion on height 402 on July 17, was arrested and that possibly he now faces death sentence on charges of miscarriage of duties.

Iraqi Troops Ambushed in Maymak

LD261219 Tehran IRNA in English 1203 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Ilam, July 26, IRNA — Some 1,100 Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded and several others captured in Sumar and Maymak operational theaters in pitched battles with Iranian Muslim combatants Saturday and Sunday.

The Muslim forces of Iran also ambushed Iraqi troops in Maymak theater four times Saturday, thwarting their efforts to retake Heights 400, 404, 418 and 420. Helicopter gunships of Iranian Army Aviation Service heavily shelled Iraqi positions, destroying 30 enemy bunkers, two munitions dumps and several tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

In Sumar, western fronts, the Iranian combatants have fortified their positions over Heights 402, checking Iraqi relocation activities and crippling the enemy troops.

Guards, Kurds Attack Iraqi Bases

LD261140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] According to reports from the Ramadan Headquarters, the center of the irregular operations of the Guards Corps Ground Forces, units of the 65th Hejrat Brigade, together with Hezbollahi Peshmerga of Iraqi Kurdistan conducted a penetration operation on Thursday, 23 July, on the (Bortub-Shirvan) road in Irbil Province, Iraq, completely destroying two bases of the Zionist enemy and killing or injuring over 24 Iraqi troops stationed in the bases.

During the operation, quantities of weapons of the Ba'thist forces of Iraq were set alight.

Violence Continues To Plague Karachi Areas

Arms Seized 25 Jul

BK251252 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] The district magistrate of Karachi East has issued a press note saying that the administration recovered firearms and explosives after raids in the Shah Faysal Colony, Malir, and Landhi police station areas. The arms include 3 shotguns, 1 carbine, 5 revolvers, 2 rifles, 150 cartridges and 200 magazines, 19 petrol bombs, a country-made grenade, half a bag of explosives, and 15 pipe bombs. In the future, the district administration will conduct raids in the presence of the Karachi Municipal Corporation's advisory committee and members of peace committees composed of notables from the area.

Meanwhile, individual interrogations of those arrested from the Bin Qasim and Malir subdivisions have continued. As a result of these investigations, 20 persons from Landhi and 12 persons from Malir area were released.

The district magistrate of Karachi Central have also issued a press note saying that some troublemakers indulged in stone throwing in the C-area of Liaqatabad last night. Petrol bombs were thrown and pistol, shotgun, and rifle shots were fired at a police party patrolling the main road. A bottle of acid was thrown at a police wagon, seriously burning a police official and injuring another. Two banks, a van carrying beverages, a shop, and a police truck were damaged in the Liaqatabad area. There have been some arrests. The press note adds that five persons were injured by bullets when the police tried to disperse the mob.

In Karachi, the curfew has been relaxed for 2 hours, beginning at 0630 this morning, in the Shah Faysal colony, Malir, and Landhi police station areas. The curfew will also be relaxed from 1500-1700 this afternoon.

Karachi Situation 'Normal'

BK260240 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of central Karachi says that the situation in the district has generally returned to normal. However, sporadic attempts have been made by a small group of miscreants to mar the situation. Despite police restraint, groups of armed miscreants in the Liaqatabad police station area continued to create law and order problems, mostly in the afternoon. A police patrol was attacked with petrol bombs and firearms. Groups also looted a post office and a bank. The police had to use teargas and were forced to resort to firing to disperse these groups. Two persons died at the hospital and 10 others were discharged after receiving treatment. Two policemen were also seriously injured. About 20 persons were arrested on the spot, including those people who had looted about 5,000 rupees from the post office. The press note says that the situation is under control and that contacts have been established with leaders in the area.

Curfew has been relaxed in Shah Faisal colony, Malir, and (Nari) police station area limits for 3 hours beginning at 0630 [0130 GMT] this morning. Curfew will be relaxed again for 2 hours from 1600 to 1800 in the evening.

Liaqatabad Casualties Noted

BK261539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] A district peace committee consisting of people's representatives, notables, and social workers has been set up in central Karachi to work to normalize the current situation and to promote peace and harmony in the area.

There have been reports of violent incidents in the Liaqatabad area of the central district of Karachi today. Hospital sources have confirmed that 1 person has died and 15 others have been injured in these incidents. One of the injured is said to be in critical condition.

Meanwhile, curfew restrictions in the curfew-bound areas of Karachi were relaxed for 3 hours in the morning, beginning at 0630 [0130 GMT], and again for 2 hours in the evening, beginning at 1600. There has been no report of any untoward incident during the curfew relaxation period.

In the Malir and Landhi areas of Shah Faysal Colony, the curfew will be relaxed from 0630-0930 in the morning and again from 1600-1800 in the afternoon tomorrow.

Press Note 26 Jul

BK270322 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] The situation was normal yesterday in all areas of Karachi District Central except Liaqatabad. A press note issued in Karachi last night says that groups of miscreants took the law into their own hands in the Liaqatabad area early in the morning and blocked traffic. They set fire to five motorcycles and two shops. They tried to set fire to a car whose driver received burns. They also attempted to destroy the (?property) of a bank and railroad booking office. A police constable was stabbed and severely wounded. The miscreants assaulted passengers and used firearms, petrol bombs, and explosive materials several times against the police parties on patrol. The police had to resort to firing shots and tear gas to prevent loss of life and further damage to personal property.

The press note says that reports of injuries to 15 people have come in. Of these, only five were injured by police firing. The others were wounded by stabbings, stone-throwing, arson, and the use of fire arms by unruly mobs. Abbasi Shaheed Hospital has reported the death of an unidentified person who apparently died as a result of a wound caused by a small-caliber pistol or revolver. Eleven persons were discharged from the hospital after receiving first aid. The district administration has been maintaining continuous contact with the leaders of the area in order to reduce tension. The situation is now under control.

Curfew has been relaxed in the Shah Faysal Colony, Malir, and Landhi police station areas of Karachi for 3 hours beginning at 0630 [0130 GMT] this morning and will be relaxed again from 1600-1800 [1100-1300 GMT] this afternoon.

Parachinar Under Curfew After Group Clashes

BK261120 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] Parachinar town has been placed under curfew since last night following tension resulting from clashes between two groups of people in Kurram Agency. Scouts have moved in to several [words indistinct].

Former Air Marshal Assails Government Policy

BK251508 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 10 Jul 87 p 8

[Text] Rawalpindi, July 9 — Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan, Chief of Tehrik-i Istiqlal, said on Thursday that the rulers had no right to remain in power after they had reportedly lost to India two more posts in Siachen Glacier recently.

Talking to newsmen at the local Press Club, he criticised the authorities for their muted silence over the vital loss. If the rulers have a slightest sense of responsibility they should step down to pave the way for a democratically elected government he said.

Asghar Khan said that our defence expenditure was rising steadily but the country's frontiers were becoming less secure and protected. He said what was more painful was that we are quietly surrendering our territory to the enemy. He said the country had already lost 1600 square miles territory to India in Siachen Glaciers. He claimed the country had become increasingly vulnerable because the government's ill-planned foreign policy was controlled by imperialist forces. The former air chief said a major portion of the defence budget was spent for unproductive purposes.

Asghar Khan told a questioner that those who were airing provocative views against the country, should be countered with sound arguments. He said he stood for the freedom of expression, though he differed with the recent press statements of G.M. Syed Ghaffar Khan and Abdul Wali Khan.

The Tehrik leader felt that there were some indications that People's Party and Gen. Ziaul Haq were heading towards some compromise. He said he was confident that both had the blessings of the Americans. He referred to a recent interview of Miss Benazir Bhutto in which she was reported to have pleaded for negotiations to wriggle the country out of the present political morass.

In response to a question the retired air chief disapproved the idea of all parties conference mooted by Maulana Fazalur Rehman and supported by the Movement for Restoration of Democracy and said such an exercise would be a futile one. He did not either favour the formation of any election alliance and said coalition governments have proved fragile and provided opportunities to the adventurists.

Asghar Khan told another reporter that a hidden hand, either foreign or of our own government in the recent bomb explosions cannot be ruled out. He explained that when the authorities were sponsoring sabotage activities in the neighbouring Afghanistan for the past seven years, they should not expect that they would be spared. He said the government wanted to create panic and scare among the people to prolong its rule.

The Tehrik chief said the people had become frustrated and disenchanted due to the persistent unrepresentative and oppressive rule and wanted an immediate change in the status quo. He claimed that the masses had not been forced to look to "foreigners" for help to get rid of the present system.

The air marshal reviewed in detail the decade long rule of Gen. Ziaul Haq and concluded that it was a big black spot on the nation's history. Law and order situation has worsened, Islamisation has become a joke, corruption has eroded the national fabric irreparably and bureaucracy has become unbridled and bribery has been the order of the day. He said another gift of Ziaul Haq's long rule was that of heroin.

Jayewardene Gives Details of Proposed Tamil Accord

BK251109 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] President Jayewardene has said that the agreement reached to solve the ethnic problem in the country will in no way affect Sri Lanka's unitary status, independence, and democracy. The proposed agreement also conforms with the Constitution. He was addressing the executive committee meeting of the United National Party at the (Srikuttya Mandiriya) this morning. The agreement ending the terrorist issue will be signed in Colombo on Wednesday the 29th. Before that the terrorists should surrender their weapons.

Attention that should be focused on now is the problem of temporarily merging the northern and eastern regions. However, President Jayewardene disclosed that the referendum on this issue will be held before the end of next year. There is a possibility of about 80 percent casting their votes against the merger in the referendum to be held only in the eastern region. Therefore, the merger problem will be solved.

The president also said that about 6,000 persons belonging to various communities were killed because of the terrorist issue during the last few years. The country's economy, property, and political operations [as heard] were destroyed. With the implementation of the new agreement terrorism will come to an end, and democracy will be reestablished within the country.

LTTE 'Not Satisfied' With Accord

BK261015 Hong Kong AFP in English
0955 GMT 26 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi, July 26 (AFP) — The dominant Sri Lankan Tamil militant group said Sunday it was not satisfied with an agreement drafted by New Delhi and Colombo to end the island's separatist campaign, but would continue the peace talks.

"We are not happy and satisified with the agreement because it has been decided without consulting the representatives of the Tamils," LTTE spokesman Yogi told *Agence France-Presse* here. The LTTE was opposed to the surrender of its arms by Friday, a condition in the draft proposals drawn up by Colombo and New Delhi to end the ethnic conflict which has claimed more than 6,000 lives since mid-1983.

"Overall, we are not satisfied," Mr. Yogi said, adding that the LTTE would however continue to hold further talks with India Government officials here. He refused to go into further detail, nor did he mention talks held by the Indian Government with the LTTE and members of smaller separatist groups in Madras last week during which the terms of the draft agreement were discussed.

LTTE leaders, including military commander Velupillai Prabhakaran, arrived here Friday from Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna Peninsula for talks with Indian officials and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Sources in New Delhi and Colombo say that Mr. Gandhi will travel to Colombo to sign the agreement Wednesday, but the government has refused to confirm the report and Mr. Gandhi himself has said only "wait and see." Representatives of the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and five other militant groups also arrived here Saturday and Sunday for the talks.

The Tamil groups are to sign two separate agreements — one with the Indian Government and the other with Sri Lanka. The draft proposals arrived at by India and Sri Lanka had said the militants would lay down their arms by Friday under conditions of total cease-fire.

Mr. Yogi said by telephone that Indian officials and security men were not allowing visitors to meet LTTE representatives, who are staying in a luxury hotel here.

Representatives of the smaller Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) and four other groups were yet to open talks with officials, a militant leader said. Most of them arrived from Madras, southern India, Sunday. "We have no idea of what is due for today," Rajee Shankar of EROS said.

LTTE Leader Wants Separate State

BK250330 Hong Kong AFP in English
0308 GMT 25 Jul 87

[Text] New Delhi, July 24 (AFP) — A separate Tamil state is the only permanent solution to the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka, the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrilla group said Friday. "Interim solutions put forth now would not solve the problems," Velupillai Prabhakaran said in a statement, addressed to Tamils in Sri Lanka, which was carried by the *Press Trust of India* news agency . The statement was released several hours after Mr Prabhakaran left Madras, the southern Indian city where Sri Lankan Tamil militants have their headquarters, for New Delhi to give final approval to a peace accord.

An LTTE spokesman said the agreement would be signed Wednesday in Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital, making the northern and eastern parts of the island nation a single administrative unit with wide autonomous powers. Most of Sri Lanka's Tamils, who make up 17 percent of the Sinhalese-dominated population, live in those two regions.